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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

CRITICS, AUTHORS, EDITORS, AND PUBLISHERS:
THEIR DUTIES.

Memoirs of the Reign of George the Second. By Horace Walpole. Edited from the Original mss., with a Preface and Notes by the late Lord Holland. 3 vols. 8vo. Colburn.

CRITICS are generally such acrid, atrabilious personages, and their performances such acid sour-kroot dishes, that it is seldom the patient public can have a laugh with them, though it might often that it does have a laugh at them. We have ourselves been of late so amused with a contemporary specimen of the critical craft, that we hope it will not be misconstrued into aught beyond a whimsical exhibition of a literary folly in a very high flight, if we devote a few risible columns to the subject.

It has reminded us of the farce after a play, or the burlesque after a grand spectacle. We had within the last month or so a sort of Eglinton tournament (recalling to mind Dr. Johnson and the bookseller, Gifford and Wolcot, Moore and Jeffrey), at which, armed cap-a-pié, and to the teeth, the puissant Phillimore couched his lance at the formidable Croker (see *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1545); and in the second course, the gallant Impey, pious Æneas, ran full tilt against the shining armour and flowing helm of the glittering Macaulay (see *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1552). Of these resplendent and glorious encounters the *Literary Gazette* has been the Hollinshed or P. de Comines; little expecting that it should immediately have occasion to chronicle a third event of a similar nature, but attended by circumstances which convert the splendour or gravity of the lists into such matchless drollery that, with "laughter holding both his sides," we acknowledge at once the *munus Apolline dignum*! That such things must astonish the gaping multitude we are well aware, for *un sot trouve toujours un plus sot qui l'admire*; and confessing our adherence to this numerous class, we proceed to illustrate the Horatian battle,* in which Walpole was savagely invaded, Colburn mercilessly wronged, and Holland ruthlessly mangled.

The first note of the assailant's trumpet is bold and fine. Like the war-horse in Job he has perceived the battle afar off; he delighteth in the scent of a fray, upset, and exposure; he hath smelt a rat! and he crieth "aha!"

The delight of catching an infidel on the hip can be nothing to compare with that of the fancied detection of a publisher in imposition, or an author or editor in dereliction of duty. It makes the genuine Critic's heart to crow like chanticleer. He chuckles inwardly, and says, "Mark me if I don't pitch it into you, hot and hot; better you had never written a line than have awakened the ire of such a Jupiter Tonans (aut Scapin) as me." By and by the announced storm bursts; and oh, the flashing of the lightning to search, the rolling of the thunder to dismay.† The reprint, than which

nothing could be more plainly announced by every advertisement it issued, and by the first lines in the preface, distinctly referring to the five-guinea quarto edition now first given in octavo, and at the cost of thirty-six shillings, is anathematised as a disingenuous "trade artifice" which *we* (i.e. the Critic) cannot pass over without "reprobation;" and this clear-headed discoverer of the mare's nest further enlightens the ignorant public by telling it of another nest of the same sort, which he fancies will be found in another field. "It was commonly suspected," quoth he, [by whom?] "that Lord Holland had taken rather a wide view of the powers of an editor—(what a contrast to his own narrow view?)—had omitted incidents and characters for reasons which the world generally [as he can truly and knowingly tell] would not have recognised as sufficient; and the few notes which he added have been considered meagre and unsatisfactory." (Oh, if we had annotated it!) The writer then falls foul of two mottoes which, he says, Lord Holland in his "caprice" suppressed; but which, to our surprise, we find in the first volume, though certainly without the translations from the Latin and French which the learned Critic has given. His lordship's "wilfulness" is "further illustrated" with properly severe reprobations, "Lord Holland's omissions being taken almost at random;" and himself accused of having most scandalously "cut the passages out of the copy entrusted to his care, in order that his evasions should never be supplied!" But, "fortunately Walpole's Rough Copy was preserved from the scissors;" and, adds this wonderfully sensitive and liberal Critic, "it would be an abuse of the confidence reposed in us were we to make further extracts from an unpublished ms.; we have quoted enough to shew that the edition [already denounced as "spurious"] on which we have felt it our duty to animadvert, is mischievous as being likely to delay the appearance of an edition which will offer to the public novel and interesting information."

Indeed, it is too bad:

"Perant qui ante nos nostra dixerunt:"

—it is too bad, to prevent us from printing the second copy made by Walpole, of his mss. in the possession of Somebody we know, by republishing the third and complete copy such as he had corrected it for the press!!! Fie, fie, Lord Holland! How could you use the last, when you might have had the second, or even the first rough draft of these memoirs, all of which were in the caskets and cupboards of the author's dilettante abode? Col. Fox, in defending the memory of his father, seems absolutely to have been imposed upon by the bold assertion, that *he* (Lord Holland) had cut out the passages, and not to know that they were corrected, and a clean transcript made and left with testamentary directions for its publication, by Walpole himself!

Now, is not this a funny imitation of the Phillimore and Impey battles of the books with reference to which we set out?

There was no doubt a rough and imperfect transcript of Walpole's Memoirs of George II., and this Mr. Critic or Mr. Anybody may consult. But the genuine work left by him, prepared for the press, was edited in 1822, by Lord Holland;

further examination."—[A fortnight to find out if it were intended to foist 3 vols. 8vo upon the world for 3 vols. 4to, which latter work was "already public property;" but how this applies to cheaper editions of any work, it is not easy to imagine.]

* And only think of John Murray giving fifteen hundred pounds or guineas for the *spurious* copy, and the *genuine* lying by all the while!

who, besides what the author himself had done, only omitted some scurrilous epithets, some indecent anecdotes, and a few allusions painful to living persons, of no public consequence, and such as it would have been injurious and disgraceful to give to the world: of the exercise of this editorial judgment, more anon. In the mean time it might be asked, what private interest Lord Holland could have to serve by mutilating the work entrusted to him, and thus justifying the abuse heaped on his tomb by the Critic? It could only have been a piece of wanton folly and mischief, unless indeed he did it to impart a factitious value to the antecedent Rough Copy,* foreseeing that it would fall into the hands of some worthy speculator—who had an honest friend in the press, *scorning to abuse the confidence reposed in him*, to cry it up as quack doctors do their medicines, as the *genuine manuscript*, and all else spurious!

The beauty of this argument is what makes us laugh. Beware, ye writers who copy a letter for the post! Should your first rough sketch ever cast up, or should you, in your desire for correctness, have made a second draft, and yet find something in that to modify, as time and reflection led you,—should that be discovered, your posted or published epistle is done for—it is repudiated: No. 2 is the real article (in the absence, perhaps, of No. 1, which, by a parity of reasoning, ought to be held superior), and you are convicted of being an impostor upon yourself!! Nothing can exceed this, and we shall consequently look for literary advertisements calling from their repositories any chance original sketches by eminent authors, in order to their publication, that they may supersede their spurious finished manuscripts. Any early design or fragments of Childe Harold, Waverley, &c. would be thankfully acknowledged and liberally purchased, in order to shew the world how Byron and Scott had subsequently spoiled their own works!

We may now consider the Prologue or View-hollo, and the first act of this droll drama over, and draw the curtain up to

Act the Second,

in which the prodigious genius of the Critic is more fully developed. Enter Col. Fox with a letter of remonstrance, and, as we have hinted, not very perfect in his part. He repels the "assertions" of the foregoing paper as "offensive and untrue," and calumnious, and "samples of gratuitous abuse and scurrilous epithets" of the reviewer. He tells the tale of the mss. committed to his father's literary charge by Lord Waldegrave, with a desire that "the feelings of those connected with the persons mentioned in the work might be spared as much as possible;" and instances Lord H.'s statement that one passage had been cut out by Lord Waldegrave himself, as affording a probable inference that he, Lord H., had not gone on cutting and slicing off lumps of valuable matter out of sheer caprice and wilfulness, as imputed to him by the Critic;† who

* So described by the Critic himself, and accurately, meaning the imperfect copy the *restoration* of which was to effect the integrity of the Memoirs!!!

† The preface by Lord Holland to his edition in 1822 is plain enough, and above all subterfuge or equivocation on this score. "With respect to omissions, it is right to inform the reader that one gross, indelicate, and ill-authenticated story had been cut out by Lord Waldegrave before the mss. was delivered to the editor; but he is assured the author himself acknowledged that the facts related in it rested on no authority but mere rumour. Some, though very few, coarse expressions have been suppressed by the editor, and the vacant places filled up by asterisks; and two or three passages affecting the private character of private persons, and nowise connected with any political

* One against three; but Walpole from his name ought to have been of the Horatii.

† A hasty glance at the volumes has excited in us a suspicion that the terms of this publication contain a remarkable abuse of the good faith demanded by a publisher from the public. If we be not greatly mistaken, these pages are a mere reprint of what was already public property, and has been so, for five-and-twenty years: though not only is there no hint of that fact, but there is a careful evasion of it in the construction of the above title page. We will look further into the matter, however, before submitting the volumes to our readers; and suspend any further remark on this supposed manoeuvre till certified of it by such

[Enlarged 44.]

having discovered omitted passages in a previous "rough copy," at once charges on Lord Holland acts of Horace Walpole in putting the finishing touches to his work for publication!

Our Critic is a little astounded but not abashed—can feel for the sensitiveness of a son, &c., but cannot recognise his late father's title to infallibility (with him there cannot be two infallibilities!)—dislikes the phrase "scurrilous epithets," as if it were quite new to him; and re-asserts that Lord H. had exercised an unsound discretion and acted capriciously. Editorial latitude is then discussed with a flux of words; and "the publishers' trick" is again denounced as depriving us, for the present, of an edition (i. e. our friend's rough copy one) for which the time is ripe—restoring the sound text, i. e. that which the author had corrected or expunged, with the few farther "coarse expressions," private slanders, sarcasms on bodily infirmities, and gross indelicate amours, proved to be ill authenticated, which the editor had excluded. To leave out these things is declared to be an abominable tampering with history, and not to be endured by that voice of the public, a pure, benevolent, and disinterested Critic.

And out of this grow the immortal Canons of Criticism which have amused us more than all the rest, and which are put forth with the due solemnity of a Chrononotologos, in the following style: "Here let us guard ourselves against a possible fallacy which may be offered as a reply. Col. Fox, or some other, may hold that the public has not a property in the manuscripts of Horace Walpole; and that as the author might have withheld them had he pleased, so may [might] those who represent him. Our answer is at once *Yes and No*. (Mysterious Delphic Oracle! but we swear a true copy.) To say nothing here of the obligation contracted by those who publish Walpole's manuscripts to Walpole himself, we confine ourselves to the case between the editor and public. The manuscripts were, it is true, Walpole's, or Lord Waldegrave's, or Lord Holland's, to give or withhold. But the moment EITHER chooses to publish, the rights of the public begin. (And curious rights they are.) The public has a perpetual title to the truth; and all the incidents of that title attach to manuscript whenever it is taken from the closet and sent through the press. As regards the public, Lord Holland had a right to put the whole manuscript in the fire if he so pleased, but not a part, printing the rest. Col. Fox does not believe that Lord H. was capable of so acting (as to cut out passages from the copy) unless he were authorised by Lord Waldegrave. We know only that the passages are so cut out, and that Lord Waldegrave had no such authority, himself, which he could transmit."

Critic allows he was wrong about the mottoes which he had stigmatised Lord H. for omitting, but would have corrected the error had he been petitioned to do so, "being in all our strictures as desirous to be fair and serve only the truth, as we have no doubt Lord Holland was to discharge honestly his duties as an editor." Was there ever so enter-

ing event, or illustrative of any great public character, have been omitted. Sarcasms on mere bodily infirmity, in which the author was too apt to indulge, have in some instances been expunged; and where private amours were mentioned in the notes or appendix, the name of the lady has seldom been printed at length, unless the story was already known or intimately connected with some event of importance, to the elucidation of which it was indispensable. Such liberties would be still more necessary if the remaining historical works of Lord Orford were ever to see the light. They have been very sparingly used on the present occasion, and appeared to be warranted by the consideration, that though the work had been written obviously for publication, it was left without directions how to dispose of it, and entirely at the discretion of those by whose authority it is now given to the public. Greater freedom might perhaps have been taken without prejudice to the author or to his memoirs. But the editor was unwilling to omit any fact or anecdote that had a direct or indirect tendency to illustrate the causes or trace the progress of any political change or public event. The few omissions made are entirely of a private nature, and in general regard persons comparatively insignificant."

taining a sop, or so exquisite and complimentary a comparison, for an arraigned culprit as this, from his accuser and judge? You capricious, wilful, malignant wronger of history, by cutting out and abstracting passages with scissors and malice prepense, so that they never can be restored—you literary felon—you are just like *Us*, only anxious for fairness and truth. Nevertheless, be admonished agreeably to our principle—though you had a right to destroy the whole truth, you had no right to destroy a part of it; the heir of Horace Walpole could not "transmit" to you authority to do so; nay, Horace Walpole himself possessed no such right; he was bound not to take his manuscript from the closet, or the moment he did so the rights of the public began, and it was at his peril if he cut out or altered a syllable; for (and we repeat the stupendous canon) the moment either (Walpole, Waldegrave, or Holland) chooses to publish, the rights of the public begin in its perpetual title to the truth; and, consequently, to every incident contained in that irrevocable document.—Now let us suppose there was a notorious lie in the *ms.*, has the public a right to it as a truth, or may author or editor be permitted to leave it out? No, says Critic, they may burn the whole lot, but they must not rob the public of its incidental property in falsehood—truths which have once been committed to writing. Ah, you stare, but you have not a proper idea of the duties of an editor. If he find slander, libel, obscenity, blasphemy, he must print it—the public has a right to all or none!

See our Crony's "unpublished manuscript," the Rough Copy, as it would have appeared but for this odious proceeding of Mr. Colburn; and when it does see the light, you shall see what you shall see: not a lie, not a slander, not a libel, not an obscenity, not a blasphemy shall be omitted; and there will be such notes as will make the whole more clearly worthy of the well-known maliciousness and love of scandal, not to say malignity, of Horace Walpole.

The Third Act

is short. Critic is consoled. Col. Fox is satisfied that his father's memory has been accidentally reviled by the kindest of critics—the softest, the gentlest-hearted lovers of literature, the encouragers of young struggling merit, and only terrible when they have got a publisher they fancy they can impale, or an audacious editor who has dared to anticipate an unpublished manuscript confidentially shewn to them, and meant to illumine the world when the copyright in a previous publication had expired.

The finale is worthy of the contest. Col. Fox, with a taste and appetite not unworthy of a complimentary comparison (such as above noticed between his father and the reviewer), explains that, in writing the annexed passage,* he did not intend the word "*scurrilous*" to apply to the writer of that review. "However unjustifiable and, in my opinion, *calumnious* his assertions regarding my father were, I do not consider them to be *scurrilous*. [The deuce he does not!] I meant that term to apply to the extracts from the memoirs which he put in his review," &c. &c. This is amazing; but the rejoicing of the Critic beats it all to rags. To be excused of being *scurrilous*, and only charged with being *calumnious*, is a delight so excessive, that he leaps almost out of his skin with joy. "We gladly give insertion to Col. Fox's letter (he exultingly cries), which closes the discussion." This letter remarks on the defence, and says, "I have only one observation to make, which is, that I did not intend the word *scurrilous* to apply to the writer of that review."

* "I cannot congratulate the public, nor, I hope, will the public be much gratified by the samples of gratuitous abuse and *scurrilous* epithets with which this reviewer, who, forsooth, fears 'abusing confidence,' has graced the pages of a paper which never ought to have admitted them." [Lord love him! he has no notion of what mighty Critics hold to be disgraceful to a paper.]

However unjustifiable and, in my opinion, *calumnious* his assertions regarding my father were, I do not consider them to be *scurrilous*. We accept the tribute to our love of truth and justice. Happy, happy are we that Col. Fox declares us to be only *calumniators*. What care we if *maledicus a maledico non distat nisi occasione*?"

As a Key to some of the foregoing remarks we may observe, that readers by referring to Lord Holland's preface will find that Lord Orford took such "extraordinary pains to correct and improve his Memoirs and prepare them for publication" that the whole of those published by Lord Holland had been "written over twice, and the early part three times." That "the first sketches or foul copies of the work are in his own handwriting; then follows what he calls the 'corrected and transcribed copy,' which is also written by himself; and this third or last copy, extending to the end of 1755, is written by his secretary or amanuensis, Mr. Kirkgate, with some other corrections by himself; and the notes on the blank pages, opposite to the fair copy, entirely in his own hand."

These facts account pretty well for the curious new process of correcting the last fair copy of a work from the previous foul one!

With regard to the gross epithets (whether scurrilous or calumnious it is not our province to determine), applied by the Critic to the publisher, it occurs to us that if an imposition or trick of trade were intended, it was about the most absurd attempt ever made upon public credulity and remembrance. Nothing can be more true than the title-page statement. The Memoirs are edited from the original *ms.*, with a preface and notes by the late Lord Holland; and we have yet to learn that in reprinting any work it is a *sine qua non* to detail its previous forms, or be called such bad names for not doing so.

And with regard to the third point, namely, the scandalous editorial liberties taken by Lord Holland, we should have little or nothing to say, were it not that our own opinions were somewhat mixed up in the question. How far living men and women ought to respect the memories and endeavour to protect the characters of their ancestors, must be a matter of feeling. Some folks may not care to have it promulgated that their sires were pilloried, transported, or hanged. Others may entertain some reverence as far back as to their Grandfathers Whiteheads and Grandmothers, within the recollection of their infancy. Beyond that, we presume, it is held to be impertinent to object to any exhibition of earlier progenitors, such as the great-grand, &c. in the darkest colours of roguery and villany. Our Critic, immaculate be his forbears! loudly condemns the fastidiousness of Lord Holland in leaving out piquant touches of this description; for this offence he desecrates his recent tomb, till we recoil with wonder on the altogether opposite sentiments of the *Literary Gazette*, at the period of the publication, and in the lifetime of the noble and accomplished editor. So distant were we from fancying he had employed the scissors too much, that we arraigned him before the public, and more especially before the descendants of parties unspared by the well-known prejudices and malice of Horace Walpole, for having suffered too much to escape his pruning consideration and justice. In No. 268 of this journal, March 9th, 1822, we began a review of the publication; and continued it through seven successive numbers, to No. 274, April the 20th,* where we concluded with a vehement denunciation of its cruel inroad upon family feelings. We said (see *Lit. Gaz.* No. 268), after remarking on the high expectations which had prevailed previous to the appearance of the Memoirs, that they were a very curious

* It is a bit of coincidence that in these numbers the Wellington Shield, a work of art which cost 11,000*l.*, happens to be on the tapis, just as the colossal Wellington Group is now.—*Ed. L. G.*

addition to the class of letters to which they belonged, and "one likely to be read with great interest, though that interest be founded as much on its objectionable morality as on its intelligence, point, and historical value; for it is (we protested) a shocking thing, both in principle and practice, to encourage that system of posthumous assassination of which these volumes furnish so atrocious an example. It is revolting to human nature to have the dead of half a century recalled from their tombs, like spirits under the sorceries of some vile enchanter, and held up to grinning scorn and infamy. The base cowardice of such conduct is only equalled by its injustice. The ashes of men cannot protect their memories; and the slanderer is alike secure from contradiction and reclamation, however falsely he may have maligned character, and however worthless his testimony. The premeditated cruelty of writing these Memoirs, and consigning them to a future generation, blackening as they do the past age, is not to be contemplated without feelings of indignation, if not of absolute horror. Such are our sentiments upon the principle of this and all similar works, which, according to the views and passions of their authors, bequeath to posterity a libel on mankind, in the forms of vilified contemporaries—of beings whose earthly agonies have long been closed, and whose final audit given."

Such were our "sentiments" nearly a quarter of a century ago, and such they are now. Walpole did not pretend to write history (*Lit. Gaz.* No. 271, page 194); and if he had, no history could ever receive advantage from those portions of his memoranda which relate to fashionable follies, and private intrigues or vices. No fudge, as Mr. Burchell has it, can be more ridiculous than to call for Walpole's anecdotes of indecent amours, and incidents of personal absurdities, to piece out the truths of English history. Much of these volumes might yet be retrenched, and this artificial Goose of History not moulting one genuine feather.

Before we add a few general remarks to this ludicrous specimen of literary dictation and controversy (where the respondent is ultimately persuaded that he did not know his own meaning, though it is as plain as a pikestaff), we would briefly refer to the All or None argument about manuscripts, so ludicrously enunciated and maintained, as in our verbatim quotations. We will pass the unintelligible "yes and no," which may serve for an idle holiday riddle—we will pass what may be deemed an oversight in grammatical construction, since it is impossible to fancy that even an idiot would broach the outrageous doctrine that a man had no right to alter his own manuscripts;—but we will just advert for a moment to the distinct assertion that an editor has neither right nor discretion allowed to him beyond putting the MSS. as he finds them, *entirely* or not at all, before the public. We daresay that in perusing the foregoing exposition one of the most amusing and characteristic pictures of a period of English manners ever published may have occurred to our readers; and it is a case in point in almost every particular. We allude to Pepy's Diary, edited by Lord Braybrooke. We have seen that manuscript, and, without abusing confidence, can declare that the filthy stories and obscene descriptions which it contains would beat all other Rough Copies out of the field. Why did not Lord Braybrooke publish them? How dared his lordship to violate the public rights, which began the moment the MS. was taken from the monument chest? He has behaved infinitely worse than Lord Holland; and we would now advise him, as his only means of reparation, to send the Pepy's papers from Audley End (where common decency will not permit him to shew them to woman, child, or man) with a letter of entreaty to the holder of Walpole's Rough Notes, begging of him not to delay such an edition as will offer to the public that novel and interesting information which History requires, and which *bona fide* doth belong to the said public, as incident to the WHOLE TRUTH.

AUSTRALIA FELIX.

Five Years' Experience in Australia Felix, &c. By G. H. Haydon. With Illustrations by H. Hains-selin, from Sketches on the Spot by the Author. Large 8vo, pp. 169. Hamilton, Adams, and Co. We have just had occasion to remark on another new work from New Holland, that in whatever else the country may be prolific, there is certainly no scarcity of books among its exports. The division called Australia Felix has had as few historians as any other; but as it has only existed about eight years, it would, perhaps, be too much to expect a work as long as Gibbon's *Decline and Fall* on the subject of its colonisation and progress. The present volume is a very agreeable contribution towards the sufficient understanding of its settlement, early struggles, and existing condition; and we have only to select a few of its most novel statements and views, to recommend it to any collection on Australian topics. The geographical account, the sketch of geology, the gleanings in natural science (even after Gould), and the notices of the aborigines, are all satisfactory; and we may add, that the illustrations are of more artistic and effective character than usual: as if the name of Haydon must unite with something of value in the fine arts. To exemplify the literary contents such as we have so briefly described them, our extracts need be very few. Belonging to natural history, ever a pleasing theme, the following are selected:

"The locusts (*cicades*) enliven the woods in the summer with their perpetual chirping; they measure about two inches in length, and are winged; they deposit a kind of honey on the trees they inhabit, which hardens into small white cakes and is known to the colonists as manna. They have never been found to be destructive to the crops or gardens of the settlers, although in many seasons they appear in immense numbers; this is not the case with the swarms of grasshoppers which cover the bush in the hot season, and occasionally leave a garden quite bare by their ravages. They do not arrive at a great size, but are the most destructive of any insect known in the colony. The mole cricket is found all over the bush, and warns the traveller by its note when to expect rain. Several beautiful descriptions of mantis are found; one kind being as much as five inches in length and of the most splendid form, when on the ground appearing like a large leaf; belonging to this class is also the animated straw, a strange creature, having all the appearance of a piece of straw placed upon legs. Beetles with green and golden wings are in great variety, and present an extensive scope for research to the entomologist. Spiders of every form and size are here met with, from the diminutive money-spider to the disgustingly large tarantula, a frequent and unwelcome visitor to most of the huts in the bush; the bite of the tarantula is poisonous, but not mortal. Centipedes are often disturbed from their retreats in rotten wood by the heat when placed in the settler's chimney-corner; and so also are scorpions of a small size; I never noticed one of these creatures more than two inches in length, and never heard of their inflicting serious injury. Ants of a great size and with formidable means of defence, are both numerous and annoying, giving by their sting a disagreeable notice when the traveller is intruding on their domains. In the month of March a peculiar kind of fly becomes exceedingly numerous and troublesome; its appearance is not unlike the English gad-fly; in its ravenous predilection, however, for blood, it is far more to be dreaded, neither man nor beast is safe from its attacks. Its sting is not productive of more than a momentary sensation of pain, but from its repeated attacks it is looked upon as an annual pest. This fly settles on any exposed portion of the body, and protruding from its mouth a sharp-pointed tubular weapon after the manner of the mosquito, it sucks the vital fluid with the rapacity of a vampire. 'Anomalous as it may appear, it is an indubitable fact that this insect is possessed of an internal bag, wherein it

secretes a fluid which in flavour and appearance is pure honey.' From the favourable climate there is little doubt but that the silkworm would thrive in this country, and the mulberry is already grown to some extent. Does not this induce some hope that Australia Felix may eventually become a silk-growing and exporting colony, and that advantages would accrue to the mother country?

"The swamps and low country and the banks of rivers are overgrown with tea-tree (*leptospermum*), of which there are several varieties. It is allied to the myrtle family (*melaleuca*). The trunks of the larger trees and the wood of the smaller descriptions, being generally straight and of a convenient size, are used for building purposes in the bush, and a decoction of the leaves is a fair substitute for tea, yielding a beverage of a very aromatic flavour. I have never met with these trees larger than fourteen inches in diameter; but when the scrub of tea-tree is intermixed with the dwarf vine it presents an almost impenetrable barrier to the traveller. The honeysuckle (*Banksia integrifolia*) will greatly disappoint those who, from its name, expect to see any thing similar to the sweet-scented climbers of English hedges and gardens—this being a tree attaining to thirty or forty feet in height with spiral yellow flowers. The blossoms at the proper season yield a great quantity of honey, which on a dewy morning may be observed dropping from the flowers; the natives have a method of extracting the honey by plucking the blossoms and soaking them in a vessel of water, it forms a good substitute for sugar. The wood is of little use. The specimens of this tree growing in some part of Gipp's Land are of a larger size than any to be seen in other parts of Australia Felix, and the flowers are nearly double the usual size."

In the bush, says Mr. H., "notwithstanding the disadvantage of a hard bed I enjoyed a good night's rest, and was awakened at sunrise by the singing of numerous pheasants (*menura superba*). These birds are the mocking-birds of Australia, imitating all the sounds that are heard in the bush in great perfection. They are about the size of a barn-door fowl, and are not remarkable for any beauty either in the shape or colour, being of a dirty brown, approaching to black in some parts; their greatest attraction consists in the graceful tail of the cock bird, which assumes something the appearance of a lyre, for which reason some naturalists have called them lyre birds. But little is known of their habits, for it is seldom they are found near the dwellings of civilised man, as they delight in the solitude of a thick underwood, where but little opportunity offers for observing their habits. Hearing one scratching in the scrub close by the dray, every thing around being still, I crawled out of my dormitory and, gun in hand, proceeded towards the sound, intending to provide myself a fresh mess for breakfast. The sun having just risen induced it to commence its morning song, but the natural note (blen-blen) of this bird was almost lost amongst the multitude of the sounds it was then producing. The croak of the crow, the scream of the cockatoo, the doleful cry of the morepork, the chattering of parrots, the ridiculous hooting of the laughing jackass, and the howl of the wild dog, were all produced in such quick succession that a stranger might have well imagined he was in the midst of a multitude of these denizens of the woods. Having succeeded in rounding a point of scrub which concealed my intended breakfast from my sight, I obtained a partial view of a large male bird strutting round a circle, scratching the rich mould up with its formidable claws, and spreading open its beautiful tail to catch the glittering rays of the sun, which now broke through the dense forest. I afterwards discovered he had been eating a small kind of black leach, often found in the wet soil of the mountains, as many an unfortunate traveller can testify from their persecutions at night. As there appeared every probability of his occupation continuing for some time, and as I fancied a stir

was being made at the camp, I raised my gun, when off went a piece within six feet of me, and a low chuckle announced that the sportsman had made a good shot. It was one of the black police, who had departed from the camp on the same mission as myself; and hearing my bird's song, sneaked past me, wondering what could be the meaning of my looking a pheasant in the face within ten paces with a loaded gun in my hand. Thinking possibly my piece had missed fire, he saved my powder and shot by blowing the bird's head off, which had been amusing me for more than an hour. On explaining to him that he had shot my bird, he politely handed it over to me without a word; I regaled myself on its carcass, though not at the expense of my conscience, for it would have been but a poor return to have slaughtered it after having entertained me so long. These birds are exceedingly shy, and when disturbed never rise high from the ground, but running off into the densest of the scrub, scarcely allow a sportsman time to raise his piece before they are out of his reach. The aborigines—more patient in the pursuit of game, and better able to approach it when discovered than most white men—seldom kill more than three brace in the course of a day. It is worthy of notice, that the song of this bird is scarcely ever heard during rain or when the sun is obscured, and it is the note which directs the wary native where they are to be found. The nest of this bird is about three feet in circumference, and one foot deep, having the orifice on one side. They lay but one egg, of a slate colour, with black spots; the female is a very unattractive bird, having but a poor tail, nothing like that of the male."

From these products we pass to copy some of the author's statements relative to the natives; respecting whom he avers that they are miserably protected by their official protectors, and egregiously ill-taught or neglected by missionary instructors:

"Seven years have elapsed since the present system has been pursued, and what is the result? The blacks have been declared British subjects, and are amenable to British laws, which those amongst them nearest civilisation have but a very limited idea of. This much they have learnt from sad experience; that for the murder of a man they are hanged, and for theft they are imprisoned or transported. What knowledge do they possess of a moral law, supposed to have been inculcated by their protectors for seven years? Nothing whatever. Ask a black man why he does not kill or steal, and he will tell you because he fears hanging. Nothing but the dread of punishment in this world prevents them from indulging in the desires of their still savage nature, which frequently shews itself when opportunity and a feeling of security favours them. Before I dismiss this subject, I would wish to shew that the appointment of Mr. G. A. Robinson at the head of the protectorate establishment was injudicious, and that he was in no way qualified to fill it. He was raised from a low station in colonial society to this important office in consequence of his success in inducing the natives of Van Diemen's Land to accompany him to Flinders' Island. With some convicts, or government men as they are there called, he penetrated into the haunts of the natives, whither they had retired from the persecutions of their more savage white brethren, and succeeded by his representations in inducing them to march with him into Hobart, whence they were shipped off to Flinders' Island. The number of blacks was but small; persecution and the shocking cruelties perpetrated by the bushrangers, some of whom confessed having shot them as food for their dogs, had thinned their numbers and broken their spirit. Impelled by necessity and hunger, hunted and treated like wild beasts, they were but too glad to leave their own country for a land where they were told they would be free from these persecutions; and Mr. Robinson, for a sum of money, made an attempt under the authority of government to

collect them together, which was successful. That he was of benefit to the European inhabitants of Van Diemen's Land there can be little doubt; for revenge was the ruling passion of the natives, and every opportunity which offered for the slaughter of a white man was eagerly embraced by them; and could it be wondered at after the manner in which they had been treated? The fact of Mr. Robinson's success in this instance was unfortunately considered sufficient qualification for his holding the office he at present does. Every reader must at once perceive that although an uneducated man might by certain representations induce a few tribes of savages to accompany him to another country, still that the same individual might be quite unfitted for treating with a class whose intercourse with Europeans has been conducted on quite a different footing from the poor Van Diemen's Land natives, and whose language, manners, and customs were very dissimilar. Whether the colonial government did right in putting such power into his hands can be best answered by the universal failure which has attended all his exertions."

"One of the customs prevalent amongst all the tribes of the province is to destroy a number of enemies for every death which occurs amongst their own members. In 1843, the doctor, a great man in the Woeworog tribe, died; and his relatives and friends, after going through certain ceremonies, set off, to the number of twenty-five armed men, for Gipp's Land to revenge his death. Many of these warriors had with them double-barrel guns and rifles, and there remained no doubt of their intentions. Now these men were under the protection of W. Thomas, Esq., perhaps the most efficient officer of the whole department. News was taken to him at his station at Nerree Nerree Warren, of the intentions of the blacks, and he arrived at Westernport shortly afterwards, in time to find his sable friends returning from the slaughter of nine men belonging to the Berber and Tandil tribes. He would not let it be considered that he believed the settlers' accounts of their having seen portions of human flesh in their possession. It would not have been his interest to do so, and so the affair was not inquired further into; but one of the head men of the expedition informed me of the whole matter, and shewed me some fat which he had extracted from the belly of a man killed there by his own hand. He gave me several revolting particulars of the massacre, and described the several actions of these people whilst they were being slaughtered, which left but a poor impression on my mind of the humanising effect of the particular description of Christianity they have been instructed in. I was greatly interested in one of my excursions with one of the blacks who accompanied me, giving a description of a 'yabber,' or discourse, his protector had treated him and his people with on the Sunday previous; his action all the time he was delivering it was most ludicrous, and a cer-

* An after-page says of this settlement (in 1834): "Visited the blacks, and found every thing clean and comfortable; they were lodged in neat white-washed huts, each containing one room with a fireplace and bedstead. In front of the cottages are the church and jail, neither of which present any architectural beauties. There are also other comfortable buildings for the cockswain, catechist, and the army, consisting of one sergeant and two privates. Some ground has been cleared and gardens made, capable of supplying the settlement with vegetables, &c.; but the land about the settlement is generally poor, and the water used is brackish and unwholesome. The total number of inhabitants at present is eighty, namely, fifty-seven Van Diemen's Land blacks and twenty-three whites; so that in ten years there has been a decrease of one hundred and sixty-three on a total of two hundred and twenty, or an average of sixteen three-tenths per annum. The greatest amount of deaths was on its first establishment, and this is accounted for by the sudden change in habits of life and diet, the Van Diemen's Land government at that time only supplying them with salt beef and flour. There have been eleven superintendents in the course of ten years. The births have been very few; I only saw four children, two of them half cast; and it is evident a very few years will see the extinction of the race. They sing psalms, play at marbles, beg tobacco of visitors, and smoke as long as their supply lasts. Almost every night a robbery is held, which is a kind of dramatic dance."

tain nasal twang shewed that very little had passed unnoticed by him. He proceeded to say that, after Mr. — had talked with the Great Father about something he did not know what, he commenced a sermon in the following words: 'My black fellows are very good (this occurred shortly after the massacre mentioned above), the Goulburn and other tribes are not good, they have killed white men, and they will all be hanged; my black fellows can go to Melbourne and procure bread, tea, sugar, and tobacco of the white people, and not be afraid; they are very good; and such stuff as this is, I believe, the substance of all their moral instruction. As a natural consequence of an education of this description, their ideas of Christianity are false and ridiculous. On my shewing one of these children of nature an engraving of the infant Jesus, he declared 'such a fellow was no good; he was weak and small, and could not protect them; no good little Jesus, very good the old man,' meaning the Great Spirit; and the native who made this remark was one who had engaged the particular attention of his protector. I think I need say no more to shew the utter uselessness of this department as it exists at present in this province, or to induce those whose inclination would lead them to do good to all without regard to colour, to inquire further into this most important subject, and to render some real assistance to a class of people low, indeed, in the scale of humanity, but who are not found to be deficient in many of the virtues which adorn a more advanced period of civilisation."

"It is generally considered that the native inhabitants of Port Phillip are by far the finest race of men yet discovered on the continent of New Holland, far exceeding the Van Diemen's Land and Sydney natives in comeliness of appearance, and also in the manufacture of their weapons, and in the simple arts existing amongst them. The women make excellent baskets of a coarse grass, necklaces from hollow reeds cut into short lengths, and the men form water-pots of the excrescences of the trees, which they cut off and hollow out with great labour and perseverance. 'They are at times tractable, generous, and peaceable, shewing an aptitude for acquiring knowledge truly surprising, capital imitators, and witty; but with all these good qualities, there are those restless, treacherous, and vindictive feelings which stamp man as a savage, to whatever country he belongs, and which it is to be feared will never be eradicated under their present management.' They are of a dark-brown colour, and very dirty in their habits, but there are instances of the youth of either sex being both comely and cleanly in their appearance. The old women are withered and decrepit, presenting a disgusting appearance, closely resembling an ouran-outang. It is impossible to conclude with any certainty as to their age; but judging from appearances, I imagine many in their wild state, and uncontaminated by the white man's vices, arrive at the usual age allotted to man, but those tribes nearest civilisation are dwindling fast away. The Douttagalla tribe has now only one member left out of a goodly number which formed it when the white people came."

"Their ideas of religion are very limited, and their belief of a future state is, after death they will jump up white men. [This must be a very new part of their creed.—*Ed. L. G.*] They believe in a 'Great Father,' and in an evil spirit, the latter of which they fear exceedingly. The blacks have some crude notions of a judicial government, as their punishments for certain offences testify; for if a man kill his wife, accidentally or otherwise, he is exposed to the tortures of spearing, with only a small shield to ward off the blows inflicted in rotation by each member of his tribe; if a person kill a dog, the owner of the animal is allowed to give him three blows on the head with a waddy, at discretion either hard or soft; but should he kill the offender during the punishment, he would render himself amenable to the first-mentioned law. The

men puncture themselves at a certain age, and raise large lumps of flesh as long and large as a man's finger; the women also tattoo themselves about the breast and arms. On particular occasions they paint and adorn their head with emu or cockatoo feathers; they have no instrument of music, the corrobory songs being accompanied by the beating of two sticks together, and by the women thumping their opossum rugs. Their only dress consists of rugs made either from the opossum or kangaroo skin, a small bandage round the head, and a quantity of string made from opossum hair twisted, which is wound around the neck in a great number of folds. The women wear a belt of emu feathers to hide the person, and the men a wallaby skin cut into a number of narrow slips for the same purpose. The Goulburn, and some other tribes, knock out the front teeth on attaining to a certain age, but this is not a universal custom, for neither the Bournarongs or Woeworongs are found to do this. That the blacks are not deficient in cunning, the following anecdote will testify: In the early days of Melbourne, when labour was scarce, a settler on the Yarra, about four miles from town, desired a black who was camping near his hut, to procure a few of his friends, and to carry to his house in town a number of fowls, telling him he would give them a loaf each when they had done so. After looking out some time for their arrival, what was his surprise to see a great number of blacks march up to his door, each bearing a single fowl, but he was much more astonished when each demanded a loaf for fulfilling his share of the contract.

"It was for some time a matter of doubt whether these people were cannibals; but in consequence of a number of facts which have come under my observation, I am sorry to say, no doubt remains but that they are so. On several occasions I have seen human flesh in their possession, and have been told by them without much scruple that they always make a point of eating certain portions of their enemies killed in battle or by treachery, under a feeling of revenge. When two tribes are about having a fair open fight, the head men of each challenge the others in nearly these words—'Let us fight, we are not afraid, my warriors will kill you all, and eat you up.' The part of the human body valued by them most is the kidney fat, to which they attribute supernatural powers, and think it acts as a charm in many cases.

"When going hunting, they say some black-fellow's fat rubbed over the soles of their feet will prevent the kangaroo and other game from hearing them walk in the bush; and there are scarcely any who have not some portion of it in their bags, which is kept as carefully out of the sight of strangers as possible. The disgusting and cruel act of cutting out the fat is very often performed when life is still lingering in the victims; several instances have occurred where they have been found alive several hours after having suffered from this horrid deed. It cannot be said they are a warlike people, as nearly all their enemies are killed by treachery, and scarcely ever in a fair and open fight. The usual plan of operation after they have determined on making war upon a tribe is as follows: scouts are sent out in the direction of the enemy's country, and as soon as marks of natives are discovered the warriors all proceed stealthily along, examining every mark with the greatest attention; a blade of crushed grass, or a leaf, or twig broken, is sufficient to point out to the experienced the direction in which to fall in with the foe. The tracks having been discovered, and the time at which they were made,—for the native is able to judge by their appearance the period which has elapsed since the passing of the enemy and also of their number,—all their future operations are guided by this. If several days have passed, they push on, still keeping on the trail, travelling in a line, and treading as much as possible in each others' footsteps. In this manner they proceed noiselessly on their road until the fresh tracks announce that they are ap-

proaching the enemy. Every care is now taken to prevent a knowledge of their proximity. No fires are lighted lest the smoke should attract attention, and scarcely a word is spoken but in a whisper. At length, after journeying a day or two, smoke is observed, a halt is immediately made, and a council held. The position of the smoke is well defined, for towards evening, on the return of the blacks from hunting, it rises up in volumes, leaving no doubt of the spot whence it springs. As it gets darker a stealthy approach is made towards the camp until even the number of the fires can be determined. Weapons are now made ready; if guns or rifles are amongst the party, the priming is looked to and fresh caps fitted, but not a move is made until about an hour before daybreak, when the whole party of warriors crawl carefully along the ground on their bellies, in their motion very much resembling that of the snake, and endeavour as they approach to spread themselves so as to encompass the whole camp. This done, they rest like the tiger in his lair until daylight points out to them the most advantageous mode of proceeding. Should one of them get up and look about him, it is a signal to commence the slaughter immediately; and each warrior, having previously selected his man, makes the attack, the confusion of fear seizes the camp, and an attempt is made by all to hide in the neighbouring woods, but every hollow stump and every tuft of grass is occupied by an enemy thirsting for blood and spreading death wherever he can. The contest generally occupies but a few minutes, and the unfortunate wounded, who are still perhaps alive, are assailed with blows and spears. Revenge, the prevailing passion, originating often in some imaginary offence never committed by the sufferers, now drinks her fill; the dead bodies are savagely lacerated and the kidney fat torn out, large slices of flesh are cut from the legs, and every conceivable indignity offered to bodies so lately tabernacles of living souls. In an affray of this description few are spared; young and old, the very infant and its mother fall a common prey to the fiendish fury of the victors. Portions of their flesh are roasted and eaten on the spot, and the remainder of the mangled bodies are left as food for carrion crows, eagles, &c. Occasionally a few young women are taken and appropriated by the head warriors to themselves for wives; but if an attempt is made by them to escape, they are immediately slaughtered without mercy. This, I grieve to say, is a true picture of a black massacre, only rendered more deadly than formerly by the introduction of firearms among many tribes. Guns are bad enough in the hands of men who have been taught from their youth that mercy is the noblest feeling in the warrior, and who employ them under its influence; but where used by a savage who glories more in the destruction of a foe than the preservation of a friend, they are deadly weapons indeed.

"On the return of such a party as I have described from one of these attacks to the remaining part of their tribe (the women, very old men, and young children never accompanying a war party), those of the number who for the first time have been in action, decked with garlands of gum-leaves, are led into the tribe and held up as noble examples to the youngsters, worthy of imitation. A great corrobory is held, and then the injury on their part is supposed to be wiped out and only awaits the death of one of their tribe for the same events as I have endeavoured to portray to occur again."

They attribute every death to the unholy machination of an enemy, as was of old the case in England, when little wax figures stuck full of pins could slowly kill kings; but the Australians believe the catastrophe is caused "by singing and going through many ridiculous ceremonies, such as tying up pieces of cord in knots, thus occasioning the disease under which they may be suffering."

"The means used to discover the blacks who

they suppose were the occasion of the death (for every death that occurs is imagined to have been brought about through the witchcraft of some other tribe) are as follows:—A hole is dug in the earth near the spot where the person may have died, and on coming to a worm-hole or any other cavity underneath the surface it is traced to its end, and in whatever direction it may tend is a sign to the simple blacks which determines in what quarter they are to look for those who have been the occasion of the death of their brother. A party is immediately despatched in the direction indicated, and it is considered a mark of cowardice to return without bringing back a piece of the kidney fat of a murdered man as a trophy. This custom has doubtless had the effect of making the aboriginal population so scanty as it is; for the tribes are always at variance, and there are generally so many deaths to revenge that they may be considered as eternally at war, and always ready to take any advantage of their adversaries."

But death would seem preferable to life to the female sex; for we are told:

"It is customary with some of the distant tribes when young children die to burn them. I have heard instances of native women destroying their female children with their own hands shortly after birth. I am at a loss to conceive why this is done, excepting from their inability to provide for the little creatures, which is often the case during a dearth of food for themselves and the consequent failure of nature's food for the child. Looking at it in this light, they consider it perhaps more merciful to destroy life at once than see it linger for a few weeks in a hopeless state of low starvation; for should the mother's milk fail, where are they to look for food fit for an infant? That their feelings for their children when grown up are most laudable, no one who has seen these people will deny; so that I imagine nothing but sheer necessity would induce them to destroy them in their infancy. I have noticed these poor enduring creatures, the native women (for they are here, as among all savage races, their husbands' slaves), toiling on a burning hot day through the bush, laden with a heterogeneous assemblage of pots, blankets, rugs, bags containing charms, &c., skins, baskets; and perhaps mounted on all these articles will be a child from three days to six years old; and this is not for a walk of an hour, but probably for the whole day. Should any of the dogs through weakness (and there are always a number accompanying a tribe) be unable to proceed, the unfortunate women are expected to carry them too; so that by the end of their journey, with the addition of these, and food such as opossums, gum, &c., which they may procure on the road, they have often a burden to carry which a strong man would scarcely endure for such a length of time without practice; but with all this they never desert their children; as soon as they are able to walk the mothers endeavour to induce them to look out for their own food, and instruct them in the art and mystery of cutting out grubs from the trees, the proper roots fit for food, and never think of leaving them for any length of time until well able to provide for themselves."

Australia Felix!

GREECE.

Peloponnesiaca: a Supplement to Travels in the Morea. By W. Martin Leake, F.R.S. 8vo, pp. 432. London, J. Rodwell.

ANOTHER (see our last week's Review of Gell's *Rome*) most valuable contribution to ancient geography and history; such as might be anticipated from the high scholarly accomplishments, learning, astuteness, and zeal of Col. Leake. With such a guide, little is left for hypothesis and speculation. We plant one foot firmly on the soil before we advance the other; and our steps appear to be nearly as consecutive and certain as in Euclid's *Elements*.

Since his travels in the Morea, increased facili-

ties have been given to the examination of the Peloponnesus, by its liberation from the Turkish yoke; and the Preface tells us, "The opportunity afforded by that event was eagerly embraced by the French government,—under all its forms a liberal promoter of the advancement of science. In the year 1829, a numerous and select commission of geography, natural history, and archaeology, was sent to the Peloponnesus, and there employed during two years, under the dangers and difficulties of an ungenial climate, and a country desolated by the effects of one of the most cruel wars recorded in history." Of their labours Col. Leake has availed himself, as they did of the previous labours of himself and Sir W. Gell, whose "Carte" they made their guide in their itinerary through the country; and in other respects uses all recent investigations, which he unites with his own, and records in the most judicious manner as to the orthography of names and other points, apparently of minor consequence, but extremely conducive to the right understanding of the subjects handled.

Olympia, the Greek Arch, a multitude of Inscriptions and topographical corrections, further elucidation of ancient remains, the Tsakonic dialect, and many other topics, receive light from these pages; and the last in particular is of high philological interest. M. Thiersch, who spent some time in his investigation among the peasantry whose mother tongue it is, declares that is "connected indeed with the modern Greek, the common ancient Greek, the Doric, the epic, and the ancient Laconic dialects; but that it also diverges from them, and refers in certain essential forms to a language wherein the *origines* of Greek, Latin, and of German, are found."

And elsewhere, he says: "Not only is the Ionian of this language very peculiar and associated with Doric materials, but behind both there may be detected analogies and formations more ancient than Ionian and Dorism, and we may say, beyond all Greek with which we are acquainted by writing or tradition. The Cynurian Ionic is no derivative, no branch of any other Ionic dialect, nor of the Achaico-Epic, nor of the Attic, nor of the Ionic of Asia, but an original stock, sprung directly from the fountain-head, and more consistent than the others, because it has neither been committed to writing nor has undergone development and polish,—the two means through which languages chiefly suffer alteration. That most peculiar and antique personal inflection which opens to us a glimpse of the internal growth and structure of the tongue, is no where found in any ancient Hellenic dialect, but carries us back to a time when Greek of every denomination and Latin flowed from a common source, and presupposes a great parent-tongue from which both languages descended, namely, the Pelasgic."

But we will leave the German author as brought forward by our countryman, to direct attention to another portion of the volume which we find most suited to our purpose of illustration, and we are inclined to think will be new to the great majority of our readers—in England, at any rate, if not in France and the Continent. In treating of Sparta,* Mistra, &c., Col. Leake is led to refer to a singular work which enriches the literary treasures of Paris.

"The 'Chronicle of the Moréa' (he states) is an anonymous poem, consisting of upwards of 8000 lines of Romaic-Greek in the ordinary accentual verse of fifteen syllables.† Its existence in ms. in

the Royal Library of Paris has been known for more than 150 years by means of the 'Glossarium Medicæ et Infimæ Græcitatæ' of Ducange, many of whose words were derived solely from this work, and who has frequently cited entire passages from it. Ducange was desirous of editing it, but died soon after the publication of his 'Glossary.' Boivin, the editor of 'Nicephorus Gregoras,' announced a similar intention, which was frustrated by the same cause; and it was not until the year 1840 that the literary world was indebted to Mr. J. A. C. Buchon for the entire text of the 'Chronicle,' accompanied by a French translation and notes. • • • It is divided into two books, very unequal in length, the second containing nearly six times as many verses as the first, which is no more than a brief record of the Crusades, from the pilgrimage to Jerusalem of Peter the hermit, to the alliance of Michael Palæologus with the Genoese against the French and Venetians, and the retreat of Baldwin II. from Constantinople in 1261. The second book, entitled *Χρονικὴ τῆς Μορέας*, relates the transactions of the French in the Moréa during the greater part of the 13th century."

Colonel Leake gives us a synopsis of the events related, which curiously illustrate the geography of the Moréa in that age, but which it would not suit our limits to follow, though we must offer a taste by way of sample:

"On the 1st of May, 1205, William de Champlite landed at Akhai'a, a village on the site of the ancient Olenus, about fifteen miles distant from Patra. Having entered the town of Patra without difficulty, its citadel surrendered to him. From thence the French marched to Andravida, then the chief town of the Eleia; Ghasitani, which was afterwards named from some chieftain of the name of Gaston, not then existing, unless perhaps as a small village under some other denomination. From Andravida they proceeded to occupy Vostiza, and, accompanied by their ships, advanced from thence to Corinth, where they were joined by Boniface, king of Thessalonica, and Geoffroy de Villehardouin, nephew of the historian. Lower Corinth was fortified, but yielded after a short resistance. Not so the Acrocorinthus, held by Leon Sguros, who, as soon as the French had quitted Corinth for Argos, descended by night and recaptured the town of Corinth. The French, who had penetrated into the town of Argos, immediately returned to Corinth, and Boniface retraced his steps to Salonika, but Geoffroy remained with Champlite, and became his *maréchal*. Despairing of any further progress in the conquest of the Moréa in that quarter, the French returned to Andravida, and were more successful in a southerly direction."

After a complete victory over 4000 Greeks, "William de Champlite now returned to France, having succeeded, on the death of his elder brother, to the county of Champagne. Before his departure he appointed Geoffroy to be his bailli and liege, preserving to himself the sovereignty, but allowing Geoffroy to keep it if he should not send a successor within a year and a day. He appointed also a commission of ten, of which Geoffroy was the head, to divide their conquest into fiefs, to be awarded to the several chieftains; and he bestowed upon Geoffroy in perpetuity Kalamata, Arkadhia, and their dependencies."

The other fiefs, &c. are particularised. And "The Chronicle has described the wise and pru-

measure, although seldom if ever found in the poetry of other modern European nations, was common in the earliest English poetry, and has continued to be a favourite with us in compositions of particular kinds. The only difference is, that instead of fifteen syllables with an accent on the penultimate syllable, the English measure is of fourteen, with an accent on the last syllable. Rhyme, which is found in the earliest specimens of English verse, appears to have been adopted by the Greeks in a later age from the Italians, as it is not found before the time when the Venetians in Crete, the Genoese at Constantinople and elsewhere, and other Italians in several parts of the islands and continent of Greece, had introduced many of their customs, and when the greater part of the Romaic poetry consisted of translations or imitations of Italian romances."

dent measures of Geoffroy, and his conciliatory conduct towards the natives during the year which succeeded the departure of William de Champlite, who, not until eight months after his return to Champagne, nominated his cousin Robert to the sovereignty of the Moréa. The journey of the latter was so much delayed by the snow of the Alps, and by impediments purposely thrown in his way at Venice and Corfu at the instance of Geoffroy, that although he left Champagne in November, he did not arrive at Glaréntza, on the coast of Elis, until within a few days of the term beyond which Geoffroy was not to be removed from the sovereignty. On hearing of Robert's approach, Geoffroy retired from Andravida to Vlisiri, near the mouth of the Alpheius, and before Robert could reach that place, had removed to Kalamata; and thus Robert was obliged to follow Geoffroy to Veligosti, to Nikli, and finally to Sparta, a distance of 250 miles, retarded at each place by a pretended difficulty in finding horses for him. At Sparta, at length, Geoffroy received Robert when the term had expired; and here, supported by the interest which a year's able government had created in his favour, he found little difficulty in obliging the Champlite to give up his claims and return to Champagne. Geoffroy was succeeded, about the year 1221, by his son Geoffroy II., who confirmed his authority by a manœuvre not less daring and successful than that of his father. The niece of Robert de Courteuay, emperor of Constantinople, having anchored with two imperial galleys at Pondikastro, not far from Andravida, on her way to Spain as the affianced bride of the king of Aragon, Geoffroy arrested the galleys, employed the Bishop of O'lenta to persuade her to accept Geoffroy for a husband instead of the distant and unknown Spaniard; and then prevailed upon the emperor to pardon him, by engaging to become, like the Lord of Athens, the emperor's liege, and liable, as such, to afford him assistance in war. An amicable meeting of the two parties took place at Larissa, at which the emperor gave Geoffroy the Cyclades as a nuptial present; acknowledged him a prince; and conferred upon him the rank of Great Domestic of Romania, with the right of coining money."

We need not pursue this document through more of its details, which further display the curious intrigues and manœuvres, victories and reverses, dynastic changes and revolutions, and a remarkable theatre occupied in a very striking manner, from 1205 to 1292; and upon which Col. Leake observes:

"The 'Chronicle of the Moréa' resembles other similar productions of the lower Greeks in the tameness and vulgarity of its language; in its prolixity; its tedious details, mixed with long speeches, intended as an imitation of the Homeric style; and its total want of all poetic merit or character. But it retains considerable interest as a historical document, and as presenting a correct sketch of the lives and alliances of some of the most successful adventurers of the Crusades, of the moral and political usages of feudal times, and of military customs before the invention of gunpowder. It may be read, therefore, with some advantage by those not conversant with the Romaic Greek in the translation of M. Buchon, who has illustrated the work most fully with notes and illustrations from French and Italian authorities relating to the same events. There are, indeed, several passages where I cannot exactly agree with the editor in his interpretation of the poet; and, by his own admission, he has found much difficulty in explaining the geography of the narrative. For the purpose of supplying this indispensable aid to the historical document, I shall offer a few remarks on the situation of the principal places, of which the names are now obsolete. These are not numerous, as the greater part of the towns and fortresses of the Morea are still named precisely as in the thirteenth century. The towns giving names to Frank lordships which are now either obscure places or no longer exist, are Ak-

* Always called *Λακωνικὴ* in the Chronicle about to be quoted.—Ed. L. G.

† The *metrical origin*, so called as having been invented at Constantinople. Whether there was any other Greek metre on the accentual principle in the middle ages is uncertain: no specimen has reached us. Nor is it certain at what time the *versus politici* first came into use. In the twelfth century they had become so popular that Constantine Manasses wrote in this measure his *Ἱστορία Ἑλληνική*, and John Tzetzes his 'Chiliads,' both composed in Hellenic; though the latter shews that he yielded unwillingly to the vulgar taste, by his complaint in iambs at the commencement of his book, entitled *Ἰαμβοὶ Τριτάτοι ἀντιμάρτυροι*. It is remarkable that this

hova, Khalatritza, Gheráki, Passavá, Veligósti, Nikli, and Gritzena."

We leave the rest to be collected from the work before us, and conclude with some pertinent remarks which bear on literary topics:

"If (says Col. L.) the anonymous Chronicle possesses value as preserving from oblivion some information on the history and geography of the Moréa in the thirteenth century, it is not less interesting as a specimen of the Greek language and poetry of those times. On this subject the translator of the Chronicle observes: 'Notre chroniqueur défigure cette belle langue beaucoup plus qu'il n'avait fait aucun autre écrivain avant lui. Le Grec est sous sa plume un patois mêlé de Grec et de Français, n'ayant ni la mélodie de l'un, ni l'aïssance de l'autre. Les cinquante-six ans, pendant lesquels les Francs avaient possédé l'empire de Byzance, avaient suffi pour défigurer la langue des vaincus, et cette corruption avait dû être plus grande encore dans le Peloponnesse conquis et gouverné en détail par des chevaliers Français, qui avaient morcelé ses vieilles républiques en autant de seigneuries, et y avaient introduit leur langue.' Undoubtedly many French terms occur in the Moreite poem, rendered necessary, as in the Hellenic of Roman times, by the new titles, offices, laws, and customs introduced by the conquerors; but instead of being written in a dialect which arose out of the brief residence of the Franks at Constantinople and in the Moréa, the language of the Moreite poem presents no essential variation from the Romaic of the twelfth century; nor does it differ in any particular of importance from the Romaic of modern times. We find in all of them the same modes of corruption from the ancient Hellenic; the same substitution of prepositions for the inflexions of nouns, the same use of auxiliary verbs for the tenses of verbs, the same manner of employing articles and pronouns; a syntax of the same kind, and the same accentual metre, in which the ancient laws of quantity were totally forgotten. The short extracts given in the preceding pages, compared with productions of earlier or later date, will convince every person conversant with Romaic of an entire similitude in every essential characteristic. The Moreite poem was composed in the same century in which Dante and Petrarca led the way in that course of improvement which speedily raised Italy to the highest rank in literature; while that of Greece declined, or remained stationary, for four centuries, in consequence of the degraded condition of the people. Nevertheless, in the manner in which the two languages differ from the ancient type, in the accentual metre of their versification, in the time of their formation, in the causes and effects of their divergence from the ancient tongues, there is the strongest resemblance. But although the Romaic Greek may not have undergone greater change than the Italian in the course of 500 years, it has varied a little from century to century, like all languages; and the Moreite poem, as being the only published example of an intermediate time between the earliest and the latest specimens of vulgar poetry, is valuable, as affording the means of comparison."

This is gone into; but we trust we have cited enough to induce every classical reader to put Leske's *Peloponnesiaica* upon the same shelf with Bunbury's *Gellian Rome*.

CENTO.—POETRY.

SOME say that the love of poetry has ceased and determined in the English public; but, if it be so, it must be the love of reading and not the love of writing it! So far from the latter being the case, we are every season deluged with poetic publications, with which we find it impossible to keep pace or through which to wade with any degree of comfort either in cold weather or hot. Yes, there is the accumulation, and here is the *Gazette* purporting to hold the mirror up to the literature of the day, so that the world, now and for ever, may be tho-

roughly acquainted with all its features, form, and pressure. It is truly a matter of surprise why and how many of these volumes found a way into typographical existence; but whencesoever they emanate, whosoever suffers, and "howsoever" they are received, we are, *ex officio*, bound ever and anon to a summation of their merits and demerits, and must perform our task.

Lyrical Compositions selected from the Italian Poets, with Translations. By James Glassford, Esq. Pp. 529. Edinburgh, A. and C. Black; London, Longmans.

A SECOND edition, which the death of Mr. Glassford left for his executors to finish for publication. It contains above eighty additional pieces, and some new notes; the whole gilding the memory of the author with the halo of poetical taste and literary accomplishments. The number of specimens of the less known Italian writers, give the volume a peculiar interest for the readers of that beautiful tongue; and names attached to compositions of sweet and classic elegance will be found to comprehend a list of *Minores*, of whose productions hardly a whisper has crossed the English Channel. From these there are illustrations, not merely of the predominating sonnetto and canzone, but of the madrigale, aria, sestina, and other forms of Italian verse: the whole presenting many curious marks of art and simplicity (the *ars celare artem*), and fancies sometimes, perhaps, a little far-fetched, but rarely of thoughts exaggerated or facts or feelings wrought into monstrosity of romance or passion—the besetting sins of other and modern schools.

Rhymes by a Poetaster. Pp. 407. London, Saunders and Otley.

A POETASTER of immeasurable superabundance and endless variety of theme. If few people, and fewer poets, know themselves, our author has at any rate accurately described his calibre in the one word on his title-page, "Poetaster"—"a vile petty poet" says Maugher's Dictionary (one of the volumes in his most useful "Treasures" of information, of which we rejoice to see a new and enlarged edition, just published, on our table); but we drop the epithet "vile" and are contented with the "petty" as indeed more correctly applicable to the two hundred performances, or thereabouts, which fill these pages. There is something almost funny in the facility with which the writer clothes every possible subject in song. We have heard tolerably imaginative persons say they could make nothing of such and such matters, but it is no matter with our Poetaster what the matter may be; nothing can come amiss, to his flexible genius. Witness:

"*Impromptu on a skull.*
The time has been when I have smiled
To view, as thou dost now, a skull
Raked up from earth by hands defiled,
To 'live' wit, too seldom dull.
But smile not, mortal—from thy heart,
Insult not thou the injured dead,
For thou, ere long, from life must part,
And some may revel with thy head!"

To Wellington and Napoleon, an ode:

"The Lion upon Waterloo
To ages yet to be,
Shall tell who from the battle flew—
Who gain'd the victory!—
Shall, trembling, roar—'Napoleon!
But bless the name of Wellington,
Who set the nations free!"

"OLD MAIDENS:
In imitation of 'Bachelors,' in the 'Bijou' of 1830.

As lonely rocks, around whose feet
The smooth waves once did sigh so sweet,
But now in roaring anger beat,—
Such are old maidens.
As houses desolate and bare—
As peevish cats, that spit and swear
At every little amorous cur,—
Such are old maidens.
As creatures that are never civil—
As things that know not good from evil,
And, therefore, play the very devil,—
Such are old maidens."

If we cannot justly transfer the *quod non ornabit* panegyric from Goldsmith to our Poetaster, we can at any rate say that there is no subject which he fears to touch.

Poems by Samuel Browning. Vol. I. Pp. 320. London, W. H. Green.

IF ever *invita* Minerva was strenuously opposed to man, we are very sorry to say that her belligerency to Mr. Browning is very obvious. But he is as obstinate as Minerva can be; and if perseverance must conquer in the end, he will undoubtedly defeat the goddess. We really regret that we cannot praise his efforts, for there is an earnestness and a hopefulness about him which we can hardly find in our heart to damp or disappoint; and there is much to be said in favour of entertaining the most favourable sentiments towards him. He went to sea at the age of thirteen; published "poetry" at the age of seventeen; and did not write again for twenty-seven years. Having left his profession in consequence of ill health, this first volume is portion of his efforts to beguile the tedious time of inaction and sickness. Such being the case we can only say that S. Browning is not a Falconer.

Poems by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell. Pp. 165. London, Aylott and Jones.

WHO the triumph are we know not. The little volume is principally religious, and in the midst of much that does not rise above mediocrity, we meet with some new thoughts and beauties. Not altogether so, however, a dream of Pilate's wife in which she exclaims:

"How can I love, or mourn, or pity him?
I, who so long my fettered hands have wrung;
I, who for grief have wept my eye-sight dim;
Because, while life for me was bright and young,
He robbed my youth—he quenched my life's fair ray—
He crushed my mind, and did my freedom slay.

And at this hour—although I be his wife—
He has no more of tenderness from me
Than any other wretch of guilty life;
Less, for I know his household privacy—
I see him as he is—without a screen;
And, by the gods, my soul abhors his mien!"

This by Currer is decidedly bad; but the following close of a death-scene by Ellis is better:

"Paled, at length, the sweet sun setting,
Sunk to peace the twilight breeze;
Summer dew fell softly, wetting
Glen, and glade, and silent trees.
Then his eyes began to weary,
Weighed beneath a mortal sleep;
And their orbs grew strangely dreary,
Clouded, even as they would weep.
But they wept not, but they changed not,
Never moved, and never closed;
Troubled still, and still they ranged not—
Wandered not, nor yet reposed!
So I knew that he was dying—
Stooped, and raised his languid head;
Felt no breath, and heard no sighing,
So I knew that he was dead."

To conclude with a sample of each, the annexed belongs to "Views of Life," by Acton Bell:

"Because the road is rough and long,
Shall we despise the skylark's song,
That cheers the wanderer's way?
Or trample down, with reckless feet,
The smiling flowerets, bright and sweet,
Because they soon decay?
Pass pleasant scenes unnoticed by,
Because the next is bleak and drear;
Or not enjoy a smiling sky,
Because a tempest may be near?
No! while we journey on our way,
We'll smile on every lovely thing;
And ever, as they pass away,
To memory and hope we'll cling.

And though that awful river flows
Before us, when the journey's past,
Perchance of all the pilgrim's woes
Most dreadful—shrink not—'tis the last!
Though icy cold, and dark, and deep;
Beyond it smiles that blessed shore,
Where none shall suffer, none shall weep,
And bliss shall reign for evermore!"

"A Word to the Elect," by the same, deserves a good word for its justice and force.

Verses for Holy Seasons, &c. By C. F. H. Edited by W. F. Hook, D.D., Vicar of Leeds. Pp. 232. London, Rivingtons.

ACCOMPANIED by questions for examination, this is also a religious work, the poetry of which rises

above the common in compositions of the kind, and the piety and instructiveness of which are still greater recommendations. The "Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity" will supply a fair example—the text:

"Thus saith the Lord God, Repent, and turn yourself from your idols."—Ezek. xiv. 6.

Where cedars wave on Syrian height,
Were altars reared for votive rite;
And silver Jordan swept along
To anthem loud, and choral song.
But not for Great Jehovah's praise
Did Israel's matrons pour their lays,
And not for Him, in wooded glade,
On sunny height, the shrine was made.
And Judah's maids wild dances trod
To many an unclean heathen god;
And impious sires, in lone green wood,
For offering poured their children's blood.
They drank their flowing cups at noon,
They praised at night the fair round moon:
The chosen of the King of kings,
They bowed down to created things.
Yea, gods they made of wood and stone;
Poor human hearts! thus ever prone
To leave the ways that God has shewn,
And make false idols of their own;
As trees beside some water bright,
Whose brows are set to heaven's blue height,
Yet bend their branches down, and look
On the false sky within the brook.
We do not bend the adoring knee
To demon gods 'neath forest tree;
And when the fair round moon returns,
No heart in votive rapture burns;
But wrong desire, and cherished sin,
And selfish care enshrined within,
And angry passions, prompt to wake;
These are the idols Christians make.
We will not cleanse the sinful breast,
Because we love our own ways best,
Better than Him, from sin's foul away
Who died to turn our hearts away.
We must not scorn our Master thus;
Earth's vain deities are not for us;
Her idol shrines, her gilded cares;
Be it not heaven's immortal heirs.
The Great Lord God enthroned on high,
He sees the soul's idolatry;
He claims the first love of our heart,
Nor takes what is but His in part."

Poems, partly of Rural Life (in National English).

By W. Barnes, author of "Poems, &c., in the Dorset Dialect." Pp. 144. London, J. R. Smith. We could have wished that Mr. Barnes had not attempted National English, but stuck to the real Dorset; for the present is like to that as the London butter sold under the name is to the real sweet and toothy county butyrateous product; and as a proof here is a sonnet on "Architecture."

"O noble art! how greatly I delight
In noble works of thy gigantic hand!
The lofty columns' massy shafts, that stand
Beneath entablatures of stately height:
The tapering spire that reaches out of sight;
The lofty roof; with arches that expand
To dumb-beholders' width; and windows grand
And glorious with many-colour'd light!
O noble art! how long thy works out-dwell
The sons of men! The piles that linger still
In early-cities Egypt's rainless clime,
And on the holy soil of Greece, will tell
How masterly thou workest, since thy skill
Can mock the working of all-wasting time."

The Legend of Latimer. A Zurich Tale; with other Poems. By W. Nind, M.A., author of the "Oratory." Pp. 253. London, Rivingtons.

"Ellen.
A brand was on her parents both;
Her father fear'd not man or God,
But roundly swore his rugged oath
O'er trowel, brick, and mortar-hod.
Her mother had to service been,
Had pilfered like a gipsy's daughter,
Till having swept the pantry clean,
The jury sent her 'cross the water—
Or would have sent. The learned judge
Spread the broad shield of lenity,
Consigned her (for he felt no grudge)
Straight to the Penitentiary.
She came out worse than she went in;
She married Smith within a year,
After a hapless child of sin
Had sorely vex'd the overseer."

And Ellen grew, in such a home,
Untainted with the poison'd air;
Mid weeds and mire a primrose-bloom
As sweet as ever graced parterre."

She grows up (who can say that example has any effect?) a model of good; but when twelve years old falls sick and is neglected by her heartless mother:

"Stretched on that floor of sanded stone
She lay beside the feeble fire;
Scarce heeded, often left alone,
With none to tend her faint desire.
Her little brother, four years old,
One day, when none was there beside,
Brought down by stealth—let who would scold—
A pillow with much infant pride.

The cushion on the floor he spread,
And o'er his work exulting stands;
He smoothed it down beneath her head,
And patted with his little hands.

It was a shame, the neighbours said,
That she should thus neglected be;
One for the parish doctor sped
Four weary miles and furlongs three.

He snapped his finger on his thumb:
The Board, said he, gives wretched pay;
My horse is tired; but I will come
To-morrow—or on Wednesday.

On Tuesday afternoon at four
Two undertaker's journeymen
Set edgewise against Ellen's door
A coffin measuring four feet ten.

The blind was down, the casement closed;
The village seamstress, coming in,
Her bundle on the board reposed
Of sable crape and bombazine.

Three sullen days passed by, and then
Deep in the open church-ground lay
The coffin measuring four feet ten.
The measurement of Ellen's clay.

The little children standing round
A little while did cry amain;
For Ellen was put under-ground,
Ellen would never come again.

But I, who saw the earth closed in,
Wept not o'er Ellen's early doom:
Ah! from a life of hideous sin
She's safe, methought, within the tomb!

Sweet mercy, looking from above
On homes where Guilt and Vice retire,
Claims many a gentle child in love,
Snatch'd hastily, as saved from fire!"

Need we add, that in our humble judgment Mr. Nind has mistaken his vocation?

Poems. By Mrs. Thomas. Pp. 292. Hatchards. DECLARED by the writer to be printed not so much for general circulation as for the perusal of friends who had admired them in ms.; and very creditable for that circle.

Laurel and Flowers: occasional Verses. By M. E. J. S. Pp. 160. Brighton, R. Folthorpe and Co.; London, Smith, Elder, and Co.

WITH just enough of taste, fancy, and feeling, to be tolerably pleasing, without being critically correct or indicative of genius, these little "occasional pieces" belong to a class of publication which we are astonished to see so numerous. We cannot suppose that there is public encouragement enough for them: well, if we pay a trifle to see ourselves not only in print (as many of these have already been in periodicals), but in pretty volumes, who shall find fault with the innocent enjoyment?

ELLIS'S ORIGINAL LETTERS.

Original Letters illustrative of English History. By Sir Henry Ellis. Vol. III., Third Series. 12mo. Bentley.

THE publication of the third and fourth volumes has completed the third series of Sir Henry Ellis's collection of Original Letters, which we still think is much inferior in general interest—more of the undigested and often unillustrated materials for the use of the historical antiquary—than his former similar publications. Nevertheless, there is much that is curious in it; and in the volume before us several valuable letters help to complete the information in, and are even supplementary to, others contained in the Camden Society's volume of Letters on the Suppression of Monasteries, and

in one or two other works on the reign of Henry VIII., which are to a certain degree imperfect without them.

The greater portion of this third volume, to which we shall confine our notice for the present, is filled with letters more or less relating to the dissolution of monasteries. Although they throw little additional light on the general history of what must be looked upon as one of the greatest and most sudden social revolutions in the annals of our country, they contain many remarkable anecdotes and facts relating to particular religious houses which were not known before. The history of their dissolution has yet to be written; but it should be the work of a comprehensive judgment, and the result of impartial research, pursued with unprejudiced feelings. We should then see whether it did or did not entirely justify the principles and sentiments of the old reformer. Sir Henry Ellis now and then falls into rather hasty observations in which we cannot concur. On occasion of a letter relating to the visitations of some of the religious houses, it is observed, for instance, that the reader "may probably have some difficulty in believing the visitors' statements of the depravity found amongst the religious; but he will have none as to the cruelties exercised in their visitations." We confess that we cannot understand in what consists the difficulty in the one case more than in the other. There can be no doubt that in the sixteenth century the English monastic houses were in a most degraded state; and it does not by any means appear that their inmates were brought before a secret tribunal. They had the opportunity of defending themselves, and the charges against them were made public, and were supported by witnesses. It is true that charges, which were then looked upon as fatal, seem to us in many cases frivolous; and the same advantages were not always given to the accused as at present; but the difference of feeling in this respect is owing to the change in society, and we must judge only by the practice of the time in which these things occurred. It must also be remembered that, in all violent revolutions, whether for good or for bad, there is necessarily a considerable amount of individual cruelty and injustice. On another occasion, speaking of a letter relating to the priory of Barnwell, Sir Henry observes: "In the 'Compendium Compertorum' Prior Wingfield and twelve of his monks were accused of most flagrant acts of incontinency; but the pensions granted to the prior and several of these very persons indicate the statement to have been untrue. There could have been no necessity, under such circumstances, to have bestowed rewards when the convent was suppressed." We avow that our impression has always been that the crimes indicated in the *Compendium* were those confessed to by the monks; and that those confessions were made with the very object of obtaining pensions by their subserviency, because, on one side, they were expressing repentance, while, on the other side, by throwing the vice on the system under which they had been living, they did effectually the work of the king's commissioners. The prior, in this case, after he had been released from the monastic rule with a pension, gave it a practical condemnation by getting married. It must also be observed, that probably one-half at least of the vices objected to individuals in the *Compendium* could only be known by voluntary confession.

In looking over the original letters and documents of the time, we are surprised at the great number of inmates of the religious houses who had more or less imbibed the principles of the dawning reformation, and who had apparently become disgusted with their profession. The following letter from the Bishop of Rochester to the minister Cromwell furnishes an apt example:

"My most synyglar good lord,—These be to adverte your lordshyppe that thys honest man byrger of this byll, the which is prior of Cambraye yn the Black Freers, a man off good l-rnyng, and a prechare

off Gods trewe gospell, cam unto me to desyre my lettres to your lordshyppe to hyre (hear) hys humble petycion, the which ys thys. Ther hathe of longe tyme byn an ymage off owre lady yn the sayd hows off freers, the which hath had myche pylgrymage unto her, and specyally at Sturbruge fayre; and for as myche as that tyme drawyth here, and alsoe that the sayd prior cannot well bere syche ydolatrie as hathe byn usyd to the same, hys humble request is that he may have commawndement by your lordshyppe to take away the same ymage from the peoples sight. And now my shute (suit) and hys is also, that it may please your lordshyppe to take the sayd hows unto the kyngs hands to put hyt unto syche use as hys grace shall thinke best, for nother that ydoll, nother that relygyon, even leek (like) as other relygyon fayned, lekythe (pleaseth) me, or thys your power man."

The number of "ydolls" of this kind, scattered through England in those days of superstitious credulity, was very great. Sometimes they were made wholly, or in part, of precious metals; but they were sometimes of wood, like similar articles in the days of Horace:

"Olim truncus eram ficulnus, inutile lignum:
Cum faber incertus scammum faceretne Priapum,
Maluit esse deum."

Cardinals of these were sent to London to make bonfires in Smithfield. Bishop Latimer, writing about one of the images of the Virgin, says, somewhat quaintly, "I truste your lordshyppe wyll besot our grett sibyll to sum good purposse, ut perat memoriu cum sonitu. She hath byn the devyls instrument to bryng many (I feere) to eternall fyre; now she herself, with her old syster of Walsyngham, hyr younge syster of Ipswyche, with their other two systers of Dongcastre and Penryeste, wold make a jooly musture in Smythfeld. They wold natt be al day in burnynge." One of the commissioners writes: "At Tellisford Crosse Fryers, I have only receyvyd the surrendere: and have left the howse with all the stuff in safe custody with the late mynster and oon of the king's servants dwelling therby. In that howse I must farther know your lordships pleasur or I do any more, as by my servant I shall shortly more at length expresse every thing. Ther wasse a fonde fasschon of idolytrye. In the body of the church wasse an image at an awter's (altar's) end callyd Mayden Cutbrogh, and uder her feete wasse a trowghe of wodde descending undre the awter, wiche wasse holow. Thyder resorted suche as were troubled with the hedde ache, or hadde any slottiche wydowes lockes, viz. here (hair) growen together in a tuft. Ther must they putt into the trowgh a peckke of oots, and when they wer oons slydyd undre the awter, the Crosse Fryers schuld behynd the awter pryvily stele them owt, and the sykk person must geve to the fryer a peny for a pynte of these Maydon Cutbrogh oots, and then ther heddschuld ake no more till the next tyme. I have pallyd downe this idoll with herre manage."

Another correspondent of the all-powerful minister gives a somewhat facetious account of the condemnation of two unfortunate priests. "Pleaseth it your good lordship to understand of Wyllyam Dikenson, clerk and prestyd (made a priest) at Rome, with William Petye, sune tyme a frier minor in Jereseye, were yesterdaye attaynted of high treason upon theyr severall denyng the kyngs supremecy, wheryn they stouk as arrogantly as any traitors that I have mouche sene in my lyf, and more wold have done, iff they might have been permitted thereto. Suerly, sir, they wer and be yett two weeds not meate to growe in our garden, nor none of their seade that they have sown, wherof we can as yet no thyng lerne by their confessions. . . . Petye is as subteltye wittid as he is engenious, and hathe as pleasant an instrument for the utterance of his cancred heart as I have herd." This writer, Robert Southwell, goes on to state: "Sir, this day we procede to the arayment of felons, wherof ther is good store, and very personable men!"

It is not easy to make any selections out of a mass of letters not very interesting to the casual reader, thrown together without order and almost without comment, and without any attempt to fix their dates. It was an unfortunate custom in this reign seldom or never to add the date of the year to a letter, but there is scarcely a letter (if there be one) in the whole collection which does not contain internal evidence which would enable the editor easily to identify it; and, arranged in proper order, they would have presented a historical sequence which would have given them much more general value than in their present arrangement, where we find a letter perhaps of 1539, then a letter of 1537, then of 1536, then of 1538, then of 1536 again, and so on. Each letter has thus only the simple interest contained within itself, instead of that which it would obtain by its connexion with or relation to those which precede and follow. We throw out this as a hint for a second edition, when Sir Henry Ellis will have also the opportunity of correcting a few slight errors and oversights. We will only point out one, which seems to us to be of more importance. One of the most active of Cromwell's visitors, whose commission was especially to take surrenders of the various houses of friars throughout the country, and a number of whose letters are printed in this volume, signs his name *Richard Doerensis*, or *Deverensis*, in rather a bad hand. The compiler of the "Cottonian Catalogue" has interpreted this *Richard Devereux*, but has at the same time intimated his doubts by adding a (?); Sir H. Ellis has called him (without any intimation of uncertainty) *Richard Devereux* in all cases but one, in which he is here named *Robert*. The truth is, and has been long ago stated in print, that this man was a friar who had obtained a bull of the pope making him a suffragan bishop by the title of Bishop of Dover, which title was confirmed to him by the king, after he had thrown to the nettles (as they say in French) his friar's habit. The name of Devereux has been given him by a mere misreading: in the numerous acts of surrender which accompany his letters in some of our public repositories, he is always spoken of as *Richard Bishop of Dover*, or as the *Lord Bishop of Dover*.

Among the few letters of Henry's reign printed here, which are not immediately connected with the dissolution of the monastic houses, we may point out an interesting letter of Richard Croke, giving an account of "three sermons" which he alone had preached in favour of the king's supremacy. Another letter gives us a curious picture of Henry's affection for his infant son Prince Edward. "This done, his grace went to the prince, and there hath solacyd all this day with much myrth and joye, dalyng with hym in his armes a long space, and so holding hym in a wyndow to the sight and great comfort of all the people." There are a few letters relating to Aske's rebellion, which appear somewhat prematurely, as it is known that an accomplished antiquary is preparing a work on that event, in which will be published all the documents of any importance connected with it that are preserved in our public record offices. Reserving the last volume of the work before us for another review, we shall conclude our notice of Vol. III. with the following letter from Sir Humphrey Wingfield, which shews us one of the evils arising, in the middle ages, from the usurpations of the church on the course of the law of the realm, by claiming the sole right of judging persons who, by their capability of reading certain things, could establish a claim to belong to the clergy. It was an evil so widely felt, that it was more than once brought before parliament, but no redress could be obtained. In the case mentioned in the following letter, three felons, by this subterfuge, escaped the justice they appear to have merited.

"Right honorable and myn especiall good lorde, I most humbly commande me unto your good lordshipp, sygnifyinge you the same that ther wer

at the laste gayle delyvery holden in the king's towne of Ypeswiche for the delivrye of the gayle of the same towne, iij. felons aranynd upon iij. severall indictments of severall felonies, and every of them pleded not gyltye. Wherupon xij. men chargid to trye the same, fownde everye of them gyltye. Therupon every off them payed ther book, and for that the see of Norwiche than was vacant, and none ordinarye to here them rede, the justices of the pease that wear at the said sessions reprieved the said felons without eny judgement upon the said verdit by them gyven, because the keypyng of them wer sumwhat dangerous. Whiche prisoners I assure your lordshipp wer as streytlye and suerly kepte as myght be conveniently devy-syd, sayvynge ther lyeffs, as one off the bayllys of the sayde towne, this berer, shall more specially advertyse your good lordshipp. To whom it may lyke your lordshipp to gyve credence as well concerninge the said sure kepence as the fasschon of ther escape, not dowyntye but that he will playnly and trewly declare to your lordshipp the very trothe of the same in all circumstanes. To whom I humbly beseeche your good lordshipp to be good lord unto, and to shewe to him and to hys felowe your lawfull favor and ease in the same, so that the king's grace, by your good lordshippes meane, may graciously pytie this mater, and the said bayllys and all the hole towne shall dayly praye to God for your honorable estate long to endure. Wretin at Ypswiche, the viij. daye of Auguste. By y^r most bownden,

"HUMFREY WYNGFELD, K.

"To the right honorable and my especiall good lorde, lorde Cromewell, and lorde pryve sealle."

MRS. GORE'S NEW NOVEL.

Men of Capital, Interest and Principle, and Old Families and New. By Mrs. Gore. 3 vols. Colburn.

WHEN we had arrived at the middle of the first tale in these volumes, *Interest and Principle*, we referred back to the title-page to assure ourselves that Mrs. Gore was not playing idleness for the time. The style was so fresh and vigorous, there was so little gagging up by hack conversations, and so much simplicity in the characters, that we could hardly believe the hand which traced it was the author of *Peers and Parvenus*. But we had not come to the conclusion before we had sufficient proof that no other head had devised the incidents. The old spirit which has made many think Mrs. Gore heartless pervaded the narration in its winding up; the old (though most artistic) way of getting over probability—the alteration of characters to suit matured purposes—and the theatrical *finale*, which will be accepted doubtless for a pathetic one, removed our doubts. We are never so excited by the coloured fires in the last tableau as to forget the incongruities of the performance; and no faded flowers elegantly used, nor sudden fortunes wonderfully got, nor the application of the proverb that "what's bred in the bone still peeps out in the flesh," could reconcile us to the absurdity of a termination which two words would have averted, or the miserable deaths of all who had a spark of virtue.

This tale is simple. A young man, named Percy, narrates his adventures in connexion with those of Mr. Barty Brookes, a younger son, without any prospects. Percy falls in love with Barty's sister Harriet, and Barty is despoiled of a young flame, hight Emmy, by a great goose of an elder brother, who in reality buys her of her adopted parents. Barty seduces a Mrs. Stanley, and then deserts her to fall in love with a fortune and marry it. His victim's husband dies broken-hearted; and Percy undertakes her nursing through her confinement. News of Percy's attentions to the lady, and the birth of a fine boy, come to Harriet's ears: she returns all his letters and tokens. Mrs. Stanley dies, leaving him her heir (the baby having died before her), and the whole concludes with an account of the marriage of Harriet to a

titled puppy she had before refused, and a melancholy hint that *she*, too, died the summer after.

It would be useless to point out all the incongruities to be met with in this story, but we must note some of them. Bart's eldest brother is at first a "spoony," and afterward the sharpest of the two. Bart, at the beginning, hates money-makers, and loves generosity; but, in the end, becomes a heartless ruffian and a griping money-grubber. Emmy is as romantic as a modern Roman, yet suffers herself to be bought and sold. Percy is a far-seeing good-natured man of the world, yet he too allows himself to be "sold and sent home" (to quote the fair authoress), without character, mistress, or happiness, by attending on poor Mrs. Stanley, who was almost a stranger. And Harriet, as honest as a heroine should be at the first, after plighting her troth to him, and refusing brilliant offers for him, casts him off at the last because of an *on dit* which there were plenty of witnesses to prove false.

We must allow, however, that there is much talent if not genius in the building of the tale; that the style throughout is hardly ever flippant; that some of the minor characters are to be met with in life; and that although the story as a whole must be condemned, yet parts of it may be commended. The following passage, being disconnected from the drama, is worthy of extraction, as many of our readers must have endured the nuisance:

"The fair widow, Lady Georgiana, was a tremendous musician. I use the word 'tremendous' advisedly; for such sublime execution as hers always inspires me with awe—awe, too, unmixed with any pleasanter sensation. Her natural talents had been perfected in the course of those foreign wild flyings so much objected to by Lord Mandevale; and during a winter at Vienna, she had acquired the mastery of Beethoven's counterpoint, and learned to dash through the rhapsodies of Liszt and Thalberg, as though possessed of as many hands as Briareus. A squadron of Prussian dragoons galloping up and down the piano could not have produced greater execution. Even vocal music she contrived to render disagreeable perforce of perfection. The scale of her voice enabled her to take the part of Donna Anna (in Don Juan), or the Königin von Nacht in the Zauberröte; and whenever any supremely difficult and frightful bravura was inflicted on the musical world, she was sure to get it by heart, and astonish even orchestras and professors. Such exhibitions in private life ought, in my opinion, to be put down by act of Parliament. Not one person in two hundred but finds them insupportable; and when Lady Georgiana, led away by her wild enthusiasm, was indulging in her vocal or instrumental skirmishings, the country gentlemen used to look absolutely panic-struck. To bear it with more than submission was out of my power."

Before leaving this tale we should state that the characters of Robson and old Mary are two of the most neatly sketched we can remember from this pen. The old man's grief at his mistress's fall is very touching.

Of the second story (and we must only briefly notice it) we can hardly speak in sufficient praise. We suppose Mrs. Gore placed the first and shortest before it lest she should be accused of eking out the prescribed three volumes; but it certainly deserves the best place. It is boldly sketched, the contrasts are strong, and the incidents and intrigue, we think, original. The plot is too interwoven to be given otherwise than as the authoress gives it; but we can assure those of our readers who love the tragical and serious, that parts of the third volume are very nearly equal in intensity to some of the passages in *Ellen Middleton*. The whole incident of the dead infant found in the Dee (Mrs. Gore will pardon our correction of the spelling) is well wrought into the story, and gives it an impulse which makes us loath to listen to the frothy prattle of some fashionable whom she

introduces in a very wrong place at chap. 27. If our authoress would keep to the description of passion, not fashion; of reality, not conventionality; of feeling, not heartlessness, she would win a much higher name than she has lately won, and, perhaps, reach a farther posterity than falls to the lot of most novelists of the day. "The Widow of the late celebrated Sir Nicholas" is a beautiful little bit of satire, which we think the "Countess of Belvidere" is not. The latter is too bold and staring a likeness for our liking. Jacob is a capital character, gracefully worked out; and Mordaunt, senior, a study from nature. We do not think Mrs. Gore has much respect for our quarterly contemporary, in comparing Mr. Reresby's criticisms to his, although he had been "conning the great book of mankind in varied climes and countries;—seeing the West deride the East, and the East in its turn condemn the ignoble publicities of the West; beholding Christians wrangle for precedence within the precincts of the Holy Sepulchre of Mohammedanised Jerusalem, and pagans and infidels (!) with crosses on their bosoms (!) cringing at the footstool of Christian kings; in short, all the contradictions and hypocrisies of modern life, which 'make the angels weep,' and the nice observer laugh in his sleeve at the hollow superficiality of the human kind;" but she has worked one or two of a more celebrated cotton-spinner's speeches to make up his, so that he amends before he marries.

For a rainy day we do not know a more chatty and readable book than this *Men of Capital*, and we therefore recommend it to our readers.

CANADA OF SIR F. B. HEAD.

The Emigrant. By Sir F. Bond Head, Bart. Pp. 439. London, J. Murray.

THERE is something about emigrants in this volume, but hardly enough to warrant the title. It is mostly a strong and bitter exposition of the affairs of Canada, when the author was Governor of the Upper Province, of his mal-treatment by ministers Whig and Tory on his return home, of the impolicy of uniting the two provinces, of the fraudulent concoction of Lord Durham's famous report (called his, as having received his signature, but, notwithstanding, repudiated by him), and of the promotion of rebels and traitors to offices of influence and trust in the colony, coupled with the discountenance and depression of the patriotic and loyal.

The preface to these matters sets out with a corvine comparison: "As the common crow is made up of a small lump of carrion and two or three handfuls of feathers, so is this volume composed of political history, buoyed up by a few light sketches, solely written to make a dull subject fly."

From this, readers may rightly anticipate that Sir F. B. Head had a crow to pluck with the authorities; and they will find that is not the want of the wish, but of the power and manner, if he has not made Scarecrows of them. Lord John Russell has few feathers left on to save him from being viewed as a republican determined to revolutionise the British colonies; and Sir R. Peel has not only all his feathers and down torn off, but large flaps of the skin are tugged away at the same time by the process.

As all this sort of work, however, is little business of ours in a literary sense, and we have been traversing Canada during the last three weeks with the more recent explorer Col. Bonycastle, we feel that we may deal with Sir Francis Head more curiously than, under other circumstances, we might have been inclined to do in honour of his popular authorship. As it is, he goes off at score, as if he were about to race across the Pampas or expatiate with the motive energy of the Brunells. There is an amusing exaggeration in his style,—more amusing in fits and starts than when dwelt upon too long or continuously,—which sometimes makes us pause to guess whether he is really in ear-

nest or in jest; and we come to the conclusion that though his language is jocular, he really means to give a true general, if it cannot be a true literal, impression of the facts he is stating. Thus, for example, writing of the excessive cold of Canadian winters, he says:

"Even under bright sunshine, and in a most exhilarating air, the biting effect of the cold upon the portion of the face that is exposed to it resembles the application of a strong acid; and the healthy grin which the countenance assumes requires—as I often observed on those who for many minutes had been in a warm room waiting to see me—a considerable time to relax."

We know what is meant here; but the same fashion carried into many statements (especially relating to serious facts) lends them a sort of Munchausenish air, which is not very favourable to just effect. The instances of this extreme severity of weather are remarkable enough.

"In a calm (continues our author) almost any degree of cold is bearable; but the application of successive doses of it to the face, by wind, becomes occasionally almost unbearable: indeed, I remember seeing the left cheek[s] of nearly twenty of our soldiers simultaneously frost-bitten in marching about a hundred yards across a bleak open space, completely exposed to a strong and bitterly cold north-west wind that was blowing upon us all. The remedy for this intense cold, to which many Canadians and others have occasionally recourse, is—at least to my feelings it always appeared—infinately worse than the disease. On entering, for instance, the small parlour of a little inn, a number of strong able-bodied fellows are discovered holding their hands a few inches before their faces, and sitting in silence immediately in front of a stove of such execrating power, that it really feels as if it would roast the very eyes in their sockets; and yet, as one endures this agony, the back part is as cold as if it belonged to what is called at home 'Old Father Christmas!'"

"One day inquired of a fine ruddy honest-looking man who called upon me, and whose toes and insteps of each foot had been truncated, how the accident happened. He told me that the first winter he came from England he lost his way in the forest, and that after walking for some hours, feeling pain in his feet, he took off his boots, and from the flesh immediately swelling, he was unable to put them on again. His stockings, which were very old ones, soon wore into holes; and as rising on his insteps he was hurriedly proceeding he knew not where, he saw with alarm, but without feeling the slightest pain, first one toe and then another break off as if they had been pieces of brittle stick; and in this mutilated state he continued to advance till he reached a path which led him to an inhabited log-house, where he remained, suffering great pain, till his cure was effected."

Sir F. proceeds to shew how the ice-blocks of Canada, frozen to a temperature 40° below zero, are much superior to our home-frozen ice for keeping, or to that imported for the summer purposes of luxury, to which the American name of Wenham has of late accustomed London. A story of an emigrant lark, singing and dying at Toronto, is emulous of Sterne; and of the musquitoes, Sir Francis's accounts corroborate the most biting of Bonycastle's. He illustrates the case with a jocular note:

"An American, living near the Grand River, Michigan, told the following story concerning the musquitoes: Being in the woods, he was one day so annoyed by them, that he took refuge under an inverted potash-kettle. His first emotions of joy at his happy deliverance and secure asylum were hardly over when the musquitoes, having found him, began to drive their probosces through the kettle. Fortunately he had a hammer in his pocket, and he clenched them down as fast as they came through, until at last such a host of them were fastened to the poor man's domicile, that they roared and flew away with it, leaving him shelterless!"

Of the administration of the law, the hold a court brings us there; and the most "Wings of clipped India justified habit of pure air, sullied with speaking mainly at life."

Not very manly, but the civil manner without councils, demeanour progress subjects by it—and with which form alter and yet tors in the are, white berries of have never but who, intermin following, list their car of island more fa more fa altogether and yet gazing admiral as "out Prize council, way; b of the R of the rapid a nada to finds I deeply conspir as we h of ours, our reginal, v bog, w "going"

RETURN "In and to Dece the con tario, tomay places; was du cattle and ve ceive to the

Of the red Indians he writes in terms of great admiration; and an excursion through a thousand miles, the British *Manitoulin*, in Lake Huron, to hold a congress with a number of their chiefs, brings us acquainted with their looks and habits there; and is, indeed, as far as the interior goes, the most interesting portion of the volume.

"Whatever may be said in favour of the 'blessings of civilisation,' yet certainly in the life of a red Indian there is much for which he is fully justified in the daily thanksgivings he is in the habit of offering to 'the Great Spirit.' He breathes pure air, beholds splendid scenery, traverses unobstructed water, and subsists on food which, generally speaking, forms not only his sustenance, but the main amusement, as well as occupation, of his life."

Not very clearly expressed, as food forming the main amusement, wants a little grammatical aid; but the context is better.

"Nothing can be more interesting, or offer to the civilised world a more useful lesson than the manner in which the red aborigines of America, without ever interrupting each other, conduct their councils. The calm, high-bred dignity of their demeanour—the scientific manner in which they progressively construct the framework of whatever subject they undertake to explain—the sound arguments by which they connect as well as support it—and the beautiful wild flowers of eloquence with which, as they proceed, they adorn every portion of the moral architecture they are constructing, form altogether an exhibition of grave interest; and yet is it not astonishing to reflect that the orators in these councils are men whose lips and gums are, while they are speaking, black from the wild berries on which they have been subsisting,—who have never heard of education,—never seen a town; but who, born in the secluded recesses of an almost interminable forest, have spent their lives in either following zigzaggedly the game on which they subsist through a labyrinth of trees, or in paddling their canoes across lakes and among a congregation of islands such as I have described? They hear more distinctly, see farther, smell clearer, can bear more fatigue, can subsist on less food, and have altogether fewer wants than their white brethren; and yet, while from morning till night we stand gazing at ourselves in the looking-glass of self-admiration, we consider the red Indians of America as 'outside barbarians.'"

Prizes for archery, swimming, &c., after the council, lead to lively scenes, described in a lively way; but they bring us at last into the company of the Rolphs, Bidwells, Papineaus, and Mackenzies of the author's abhorrence; and thence by his rapid and somewhat dangerous transit, from Canada to New York and so to England, where he finds Downing Street altogether as bad, and as deeply affected with the political rot, as Canadian conspirators and United States sympathisers; and as we have mentioned such things are no business of ours, we shall here lay down our pen and refer our readers to the unslacked diatribes of the original, with which, if they go along and the whole hog, we shall simply add, that they will indeed be "going a-head."

LIEUT.-COL. BONNYCASTLE'S CANADA.

[Third notice: conclusion.]

RETURNING to Canada, we are told:

"In 1845 the lakes began suddenly to diminish, and to such a degree was this continued from June to December, when the hard frosts begin, that, at the commencement of the latter month, Lake Ontario, at Kingston, was three feet below its customary level, and consequently, in the country places, many wells and streams dried up, and there was during the autumn distress for water both for cattle and man, although the rains were frequent and very heavy. Whence, then, do the lakes receive that enormous supply which will restore them to their usual flow?—or are they permanently di-

minishing? I am inclined to believe that the latter is the case, as cultivation and the clearing of the forest proceed; for I have observed within fifteen years the total drying up of streamlets by the removal of the forest, and these streamlets had evidently once been rivulets and even rivers of some size, as their banks, cut through alluvial soils, plainly indicated. The lakes also exhibit on their borders, particularly Ontario, as Lyell describes from the information of the late Mr. Roy, who had carefully investigated the subject, very visible remains of many terraces which had consecutively been their boundaries. It is evident to observers who have recorded facts respecting the lakes, that but a small amount of vapour water is deposited by north-easterly winds from the Gulf of St. Lawrence, the great estuary of that river, of which the lakes are only enlargements, as the wind from that region carries the cloud-masses from the lakes themselves direct to the valley of the Mississippi. For it meets with no obstacle from high lands on the western littoral, which is low. A north-east gale continues usually from three to six days, and generally without much rain; but all the other winds from south to westerly afford a plentiful supply of moisture. Thus a shift of wind from north-east to north and to north-west perhaps brings back the vapour of the great valley of the gulf, reduced in temperature by the chilly air of the north and west. If then an easterly gale continues for an unusual time, the basin of the Canadian lakes is robbed of much of its water, which passes to the rivers of the West, and is lost in the Gulf of Mexico or in the forest-lakes of the wild West. Perhaps, therefore, whenever a cycle occurs in which north-east winds prevail during a year or a series of years, the lakes lose their level; for, their direction being north-east and south-west, such is the usual current of the air; and therefore either north-east or south-westerly winds are the usual ones which pass over their surface. The parts of the great inland navigation which suffer most in these periodical depressions are the St. Clair River and the shallow parts of those extensions of the St. Lawrence called Lakes St. Francis and St. Peter; which in the course of time will cause, and, indeed, in the latter already do cause, some trouble and some anxiety."

Farther speculation upon these very important phenomena will be found in the first volume, being too long for us to quote; and, indeed, we have already devoted so much space to this review that we must pass very slightly over the Canadian politics and statistics in volume 2, though the most valuable portion of Sir R. Bonycastle's labours. Rising as Canada is, and becoming yearly a better customer for British goods, the following notice comes home to remarks we have so often enforced on the short-sighted and discreditable manner in which so many of our manufactured exports are made up—like Pindar's razors, not to shave but sell—and which is a natural consequence of the underselling competition in almost every branch of trade. But it is too bad to find even go-ahead, reckless, and unscrupulous Jonathan, (as he is so generally represented) more sterling and honest, aye and wise too, in trade, than the model of commercial prudence and integrity, John Bull.

"No man should ever travel in Canada without an axe; for you never know, even on the great main roads, when you may want it to remove a fallen tree or to mend your wagon with. A first-rate axe will cost you, handle and all, seven shillings and sixpence currency; but then it is a treasure afterwards, whereas a cheap article will soon wear out or break. Strange to say, Sheffield and Birmingham do not produce coarse cutting-tools for the Canada market that can compete with the American. It has been remarked of late years, that even all carpenters' tools, and spades, pickaxes, shovels, *et id genus omne*, are all cheaper, better, and more durable from the States than those imported from England. Let our manufacturers at home look to this in time."

With two or three more brief notes we must now conclude. In natural history: "I heard a very curious fact in natural history whilst at Niagara, in company with a medical friend who took much interest in such matters. I had often remarked, when in the habit of shooting, the very great length of time that the loon, or northern diver (*Colymbus glacialis*), remained under water after being fired at, and fancied he must be a living diving-bell, endowed with some peculiar functions which enabled him to obtain a supply of air at great depth; but I was not prepared for the circumstance that the fishermen actually catch them on the hooks of their deepest lines in the Niagara river, when fishing at the bottom for salmon-trout, &c. Such is, however, the fact."

On the Canadian 'Thames': "I amused myself here on a scorching evening with looking about me, as well as the heat would permit; and here I first heard and first saw that curious little Canadian bird, the mourning dove. It came hopping along the ground close to the inn; but the evening was not light enough for me to distinguish more than that it was very small, not so big as a quail, and dark coloured. It seemed to prefer the sandy road; and as it had probably never been molested, picked up the oats or grain left in feeding the horses. It became so far domesticated as to approach mankind, although the slightest advance towards it sent it away. My host, a very intelligent man, told me that it always came thus on the hot summer nights; and we soon heard at various distances its soft but exceedingly melancholy call. It appears peculiar to this part of Canada, and is the smallest of the dove kind. I know of nothing to compare with its soft, cadenced, and plaintive cry; it almost makes one weep to hear it, and is totally different from the coo of the turtle-dove. When it begins, and the whip-poor-will joins the concert, one is apt to fancy there is a lament among the feathered kind for some general loss in the stillness and solemnity of a summer's night, when the leaves of the vast and obscure forest are unruffled, when the river is just murmuring in the distance, and the moon emerging from and re-entering the drifting night-cloud, in a land of the mere remnant of the Indian tribes gone to their eternal rest."

"My *compagnon de voyage* I had taken up in the morning on account of the intelligence which he displayed; and in return for the ride he gave me much information. The banks of Young Father Thames, after leaving Chatham, and about it, are very low and flat; consequently fever and ague are by no means rare visitors. He described the ague as being beyond a common Canada one; and as he was of Yankee origin, the reader will readily understand his description of it. I asked him if he had ever had it. 'Had it! I guess I have; I had it last fall, and it would have taken three fellows with such a fit as mine was to have made a shadow: why my nose and ears were isinglass, and I shook the bedposts out of the perpendicular.' I queried whether the country was subject to any other diseases, such as consumption. 'If you have any friend with a consumption,' said he, 'send him to Thamesville: consumption would walk off sick as soon as he got the ague. No disorder is guilty of coming on before it, and it leaves none behind.'"

"Singular discoveries are occasionally made in opening the Canadian forests, though it would seem that ancient civilisation had been chiefly confined to the western shores of the Andean chain, exclusive of Mexico only. In a former volume was described a vase, of Etruscan shape, which was discovered during the operations of the Canada Company, near the shores of Lake Huron; and vast quantities of broken pottery, of beautiful forms, are often turned up by the plough. I have a specimen, of large size, of an emerald green glassy substance, which was unfortunately broken when sent to me, but described as presenting a regular polygonal figure: two of the faces, measuring some

inches, are yet perfect. It is a work of art, and was found in the virgin-forest in digging."

We conclude with the mention of an individual whom we well remember as an Indian Lion in London some years ago. We frequently met him in society, numerous and limited; and his byplay was about the finest pseudo-savage that was ever witnessed. The scratch of a pin would make him start and direct his sharp glance to the spot whence the sound came, though he appeared to be intensely occupied in conversation or otherwise. He was immortalised in our *Gazette*; and now Sir R. Bonycastle recalls him to our memory—thus:

"Our first stopping-place was Port Credit, a place remarkable for the settlement near it of an Indian tribe, to which the half-bred Peter Jones, or Kékéquawkonaby, as he is called, belongs. This man, or, rather, this somewhat remarkable person, and, I think, missionary teacher of the Wesleyan Methodists, attained a share of notoriety in England a few years ago by marrying a young Englishwoman of respectable connexions, and passed with most people in wonder-loving London as a great Indian Chief, and a remarkable instance of the development of the Indian mind. He was, or rather is, for I believe he is living, a clever fellow, and had taken some pains with himself; but like most of the Canadian lions in London, does not pass in his own country for any thing more than what he is known to be there, and that is, like the village he lives near, of credit enough. It answers certain purposes every now and then to send people to represent particular interests to England; and in nearly all these cases John Bull receives them with open arms, and, with his national gullibility, is often apt to overrate them. The Ojibbeway or Chippewa Indians, so lately in vogue, were a pleasant instance; and we could name other more important personages who have made dukes, and lords, and knights of the shire, esquires of the body, and simple citizens pay pretty dearly for having confided their consciences or their purse-strings to their keeping. Beware, dear brother John Bull, of those who announce their coming with flourishes of trumpet, and who, when they arrive on your warm hearths, fill every newspaper with your banquetings, addresses, and talks." For

"Surely the pleasure is as great
In being cheated as to cheat."

Geological Observations on South America, &c. By Charles Darwin, M.A., F.R.S. &c. 8vo., pp. 279. London, Smith, Elder, and Co.

UPON this volume we have little more to state than that it is like its precursors, worthy of the science of the author, deserving of the government with whose approbation and aid it is published; full of minute details, as well as the grander features of the geology of South America, and ably and handsomely illustrated by maps, sections, and engravings of fossils. It is the third and last part of the geology of the voyage of the *Beagle* during the years 1832 to 1836; and serves to complete a vast mass of scientific information connected with that expedition, so judiciously commanded by Captain Fitzroy, and which will furnish grounds for comparison and generalisation during many years to come. A just tribute is paid to M. Alcide d'Orbigny (author of a great work on South America), for his assistance in identifying many species of shells, particularly molluscs, in Mr. Darwin's collection; and when we add the following portion of the list of liberal contributors to the accuracy and amplitude of the philosophical publications belonging to this voyage, we may rest satisfied that the public will estimate their value: Professor Owen, Messrs. Waterhouse, Gould, Bell, and the Rev. L. Jenyns; Dr. Hooker, Professor Henslow, Professor Miller (of Cambridge), Sir H. De la Beche, Mr. Sowerby, and Professor E. Forbes!

The Christian Philosopher, &c. By Thomas Dick, LL.D. Vol. I. Glasgow and London, W. Collins.

A NEW and cheap edition.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

MUSEUM OF ECONOMIC GEOLOGY.

Memoirs of the Geological Survey of Great Britain, and of the Museum of Economic Geology in London. Published by order of the Lords Commissioners of her Majesty's Treasury. Vol. I. 8vo, pp. 531. Longmans.

THE Museum of Economic Geology will, we trust, lead to a Government plan of education for the superintendents of our mining and metallurgic departments. That colleges or establishments for such objects are needed, requires, we think, but little argument on our part. The day is past when the practical man—i.e. the man who has attained a certain amount of empirical knowledge by his individual labour and observation in a limited district, and whose best sources of information are generally attained by the correction of his own blunders—the time is past, we say, when such a man can affect to compete with those who, by an extensive course of study, comprehending the accumulated results obtained by a large number of competent observers, works not only by his own hand, and is aided not merely by his own experience, but by the classified, compared, and digested experience of a multitude of educated and thinking minds.

It is one of the wonderful instances of the tenacity with which we English cling to things as they are, or as they have been, that in a country so dependent on its mineralogical resources no great mining academy has been yet founded, and that the establishment of the Museum of Economic Geology should be the first step in this direction. We know it may be said, in answer to this, as it has been to other complaints of the pertinacity with which the English nation has refused to adapt her modes of education to the future requirements of the pupils, that England has succeeded under her present system—why change it? England has succeeded under, but not by, her present system; but England is being beaten by the foreigner in many branches of industrial art in which hitherto she has held her own, and will be more disgracefully beaten if she does not open her eyes to the necessity of more enlarged views, in order to meet a higher and more complex civilisation.

To come, however, to the book before us, which purports to be the first of a series of volumes of the memoirs published by order of the Lords of the Treasury, and formed, at least as far as this volume indicates, by the contributions of parties engaged in the geological survey, and connected with the Museum of Economic Geology. It contains ten papers, several of them of great value, of each of which we had endeavoured to prepare an abstract, so as to put our readers in possession of their main points; we find, however, some of the papers consist so much of matter of detail which cannot be abstracted, that we know of no better method of conveying all the information which, as far as regards some of these papers, our space will permit us to give, than by quoting the conclusion or summing up of their respective authors.

The first memoir, which occupies about half the volume, is by Sir H. De la Beche "On the formation of the rocks of South Wales and South-Western England." The author sums up as follows:

"Other changes, not less interesting, have to be noticed when sufficient country has been carefully examined to enable us to treat properly of the oolitic, cretaceous, supracretaceous, and more modern accumulations which have been effected in South Wales and South-Western England. Enough has, however, been stated to show that this small spot on the earth's surface, for such it is, has been exposed to many different modifying conditions during the lapse of the geological time already noticed. At first we find mud, sands, and gravels (for the most part exhibiting very gradual accumulation), and derived from pre-existing rocks, the detritus mixed with some calcareous matter, and the whole so mingled with igneous products as to

render it scarcely doubtful that volcanos rose above the surface of the sea in parts of the district, and that ashes were thrown out and lava currents ejected from them, intermingling with the common detrital deposits of the time. Various animals lived in and on the sea-bottom of the period, and were adjusted, as we now find such animals, to the conditions best suited to them; and as the accumulations continued, many kinds perished and were replaced by others. A time then came when the deposits of the district were intermixed with a large collective amount of peroxide of iron. The new state of the sea-bottom was unsuited to the kind of animal life which previously so abounded; and except a few fish, little else is found in the accumulations of mud, sand, and gravel now formed, and many thousand feet in depth, even allowing that the mode of deposit has been such as often to give a false appearance of thickness. Gravels became more abundant in the upper part of these deposits, chiefly though not altogether red, and calcareous, muddy, and arenaceous matter, not marked by any abundance of peroxide of iron, finally prevailed. Whatever differences and modifications there may have been in different parts of the general district while this mass of matter was accumulating, so that the peroxide of iron was more mingled with the deposits in one part of it than in another, and that conditions for the existence of marine animal life were favourable in one locality and unfavourable in another, the spread of the upper calcareous, argillaceous, and sandy deposits (however modified they may have been by differences in thickness or in the amount of one kind of accumulation more than of another), appears to have been general in those localities where any deposits were effected. A third great change succeeded. As far as regards a large part of the district, and for a long period, little detrital matter derived from pre-existing rocks was drifted into it. Marine animals swarmed, and left their harder parts to accumulate and form beds hundreds of feet in depth. Solid beds of limestone were produced partly from these remains and partly from the chemical deposit of carbonate of lime, itself perhaps in a great measure obtained from the solution of many of the harder remains of these marine animals. While the calcareous matter thus abounded in one part of the district it was more scarce in another, and common detrital beds were there formed.

"The next and fourth chief change was of a most marked kind, and the manner in which it was effected varied in different parts of the general area. In places it was somewhat sudden, in others less so, and in one part of the district there were such alternations of calcareous, argillaceous, and arenaceous conditions that a considerable thickness of deposit is characterised by alternations of limestone, shales, and sandstones, the whole fossiliferous. A large mass of vegetable matter, often occurring in extended sheets of comparatively small depth, now became entombed, interstratified with mud, sand, and gravel, much of this vegetation having grown above the peculiar beds over which we now find it in its present state of coal. Though many plants were drifted from some adjoining dry land, we find others, independently of the thin vegetable accumulations, now forming coal beds, standing where they grew, their stems rising amid the sands and mud with which they have been covered. No trace of a marine remains has yet been detected in the many thousands of feet of depth of which these accumulations consist.

"A great interruption of deposits now took place, and the accumulated sea-bottoms, and the mud, sands, and gravel, with the thin sheets and intermixtures of vegetable matter, last noticed, were squeezed and crumpled so that they no longer occupied the same amount of superficial area. At no remote period from this, if not at the same time, masses of granite were thrust up in part of the district, forcing aside and even breaking through the detrital, calcareous, and igneous products of former

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periods. It is not improbable that molten trap-
 rocks may have been also thrust up in another
 part of the area, at or about the same time.
 This period of violence and disturbance did not
 terminate without numerous cracks and rents
 being formed as well in such parts of the granite as
 had become consolidated, as in the adjoining detrital
 and other first-formed rocks as had been displaced
 by it, and into many of such cracks fused
 granite was forced up from beneath. Great disloca-
 tions were then also produced, and it is not im-
 probable that some even exceeding two thousand
 feet of movement vertically, as regards the planes
 of the beds, were then effected. Of the time
 which the disturbed ground took to adjust itself we
 possess no direct evidence. We can only infer
 that, while the folding of the beds is of such a char-
 acter, in many localities, as to have required great
 lateral pressure to force them into the forms ob-
 served, and many cracks and fissures into which
 fused rocks rose were due to the shrinking of the
 heated masses from cooling, the various great and
 minor dislocations of this period were the adjust-
 ments of the disturbed masses to a state of repose.
 We see in the next state of the district that com-
 parative tranquillity had been again restored, and
 that gravels, sands, and mud were accumulated in
 waters washing the shores of various portions of
 the disturbed and dislocated rocks which rose
 above their level. The deposits of this period, like
 those of one previously noticed, were characterised
 by the presence of a large amount of peroxide of
 iron, giving a red tint to the mass. As in the pre-
 vious instance, the remains of animal life can
 scarcely be found; and it is only towards the top,
 in a thin deposit of grey beds amid the red marls,
 which there prevail, and in the northern part of
 the district, that we discover the remains of fish
 and of a mollusc. Two saurians have also been
 found in the gravel of this period in one locality.
 The sixth and last change we have now to notice
 shews tranquillity still preserved, and the causes,
 whatever they may have been, for the intermixture
 of a large amount of peroxide of iron with the mud,
 sands, and gravel of the time, to have ceased.
 Grey mud and calcareous matter are now spread,
 with certain modifications, over such parts of the
 district as could be thus covered, and life of a new
 kind abounded, different from that which, with a
 certain general character, prevailed among the
 older deposits, excepting in the few remains which,
 in this district, have been observed in the red de-
 posits immediately preceding the lias. The most
 marked difference consists in the presence of huge
 reptiles which must have lived in multitudes in the
 seas and along the shores.

"Of the various beds of clay, sands, and limé-
 stones of different characters surmounting this ac-
 cumulation, we shall not now speak, further than
 to observe, that although many of them, no doubt,
 extended much further westward than we now ob-
 serve them, being cut off in that direction by de-
 nudation, the evidence is in favour of their having
 been, as elsewhere noticed, deposited in areas
 gradually diminishing to the eastward. Coupling
 this district with Southern Ireland, we have, dur-
 ing the lapse of the geological time noticed, two
 instances, at different periods, one anterior to the
 deposit of the old red sandstone and the other
 subsequent to that of the coal measures, when
 great forces so acted as to squeeze, crumple up,
 and dislocate detrital, calcareous, and igneous
 rocks, accumulated to the depth of many thousand
 feet, much of the pressure having been lateral over
 large spaces. In both instances, probably, an up-
 thrust of granite, as also of some trappean rocks,
 accompanied these great movements in parts of the
 disturbed area. At other times we seem to have
 the evidence of the action only of such forces and
 causes of detrital, calcareous, and igneous accumu-
 lations as we daily witness. Such differences as
 these are sufficient to shew that, however desirable
 and necessary it is well and systematically to study
 all those causes of accumulations, zoological, bo-

tanical, chemical, and physical, which in the pre-
 sent state of the world we either see or fairly infer
 to exist, we must also carefully bear in mind those
 other causes of modification and change which the
 form of our planet, and a multitude of geological
 facts, would lead us to consider must have most
 materially influenced the conditions of the earth's
 surface during the progress of geological time."

The next paper is by Mr. Ramsay "On the denu-
 dation of South Wales and the adjacent counties
 of England." The author states that, assuming as a
 geological axiom the sedimentary strata to have
 been derived from the wreck of pre-existing rocks,
 this transition is attributable partly to atmospheric
 and fluvial effects, partly to the destructive action
 of the sea upon its coasts: the paper is principally
 devoted to this latter agency. The substance of
 the paper would be unintelligible without the an-
 nexed plans. The author concludes as follows:

"In South Wales the silurian rocks attain a
 thickness of at least 12,000 feet. The greatest
 thickness of the old red sandstone is between
 7000 and 8000 feet; and the coal measures attain,
 in their greatest development, a thickness of not
 less than 12,000 feet. Simply estimating their
 cubic contents in the area they now occupy, and
 adding to this the amount removed by denudation
 and that existing beneath the level of the sea, it
 is evident that the quantity of matter employed
 to form these strata was many times greater
 than the entire amount of solid land they now
 present above the waves. Now, though in South
 Wales a small proportion of this material may
 have been used twice over in the formation of
 its older strata, yet, from the almost perfect con-
 formity of these deposits, it is evident that this is
 the exception, and not the rule. To form, there-
 fore, so great a thickness, a mass of matter of
 nearly equal cubic contents must have been won
 by the waves and the outpourings of rivers from
 neighbouring lands, of which, perhaps, no original
 trace now remains. It has been already stated
 that a greater amount of carbonic acid in the an-
 cient atmosphere than it now holds may have ma-
 terially accelerated the process of disintegration by
 the union of this acid with the alkaline consti-
 tuents of rocks; and thus these earlier deposits
 may well have accumulated more rapidly than
 those of modern eras. Yet, with every allowance
 on this head, when we consider the many phases
 through which creation passed during the develop-
 ment of these various formations; genera and
 species in many successions coming slowly into
 being, disappearing, and being replaced by others;
 when we consider the solid cubic contents of the
 aggregate strata as they existed when entire, or
 even as they now are (for a far greater proportion
 of their mass lies beneath than above the level of
 the sea), we cannot but conclude, when compared
 with the little surface they now present above
 water, that the time occupied in their formation
 must have been infinitely longer than the time re-
 quired to destroy all that now remains exposed to
 the elements, or all that existed even prior to the
 tertiary denudations. If the same agencies be
 still at work, that which has been achieved once
 may be performed again. Why, then, should we
 wonder at the destruction of the old land depicted
 in the restored sections? Yet the matter torn from
 above the present surface was far greater than all
 which still remains above the level of the sea. In
 these last denudations, judging from the organic
 remains of the period, we may not suppose that
 the atmosphere sensibly differed from that of our
 own times; and thus from the air there would
 arise no acceleration in the waste. What, then,
 can we conclude, but that the time requisite to
 remove these mountains was at least equal or
 greater in amount than that which may yet pass
 ere the existing land of the same district be ut-
 terly worn away? As we estimate time, it is
 vain to attempt to measure the duration of even
 small portions of geological epochs. Within the
 historical period no great authentic change has

been effected on the coasts of Wales. On many
 an available headland the cliffs are still crowned
 with ancient fortified retreats whose origin is lost
 in the mists of antiquity. If, then, we cannot
 contemplate the far distant period when the pre-
 sent land shall be utterly destroyed, so also of the
 time occupied in that last great denudation in
 days we may almost call but little antecedent to
 our own, if it were possible to express so vast a
 period in figures, they could convey no impression
 to the mind save one almost approaching to in-
 finity."

We may observe of both these papers, that they
 add strong corroboration, if such be needed, to the
 immensity of time required for geological change
 as compared with what is termed the historical
 period (on this subject see our report of Mr. Lyell's
 lecture, *Literary Gazette*, No. 1550, p. 850).

Next in succession follows a paper, by Prof. E.
 Forbes, "On the connexion between the distribu-
 tion of the existing fauna and flora of the British
 isles and the geological changes which have affected
 their area, especially during the epoch of the
 northern drift." Our readers may recollect a paper,
 on a subject nearly approaching this, was read by
 Prof. Forbes to the Zoological Section of the British
 Association at Cambridge, and is reported in *Lit.
 Gaz.* No. 1484. Prof. Forbes assumes as true the
 doctrine of specific centres, or rather takes it as a
 postulate, on which he founds the reasoning of his
 paper. Although, however, he starts with it as a
 postulate, he immediately afterwards presents the
 following propositions as arguments for its truth:

"That this view is true, the following facts go
 far to prove. 1st. Species of opposite hemispheres
 placed under similar conditions are representative
 and not identical. 2d. Species occupying similar
 conditions in geological formations far apart, and
 which conditions are not met with in the inter-
 mediate formations, are representative and not
 identical. 3d. Wherever a given assemblage of
 conditions, to which, and to which only, certain
 species are adapted, are continuous,—whether geo-
 graphically or geologically,—identical species range
 throughout. I offer no comments on these three
 great facts, which I present for the consideration
 of the few naturalists who doubt the doctrine of
 specific centres. The general and traditional be-
 lief of mankind has connected the idea of descent
 with that of distinct kinds, or species, of crea-
 tures; and the abandonment of this doctrine would
 place in a very dubious position all evidence the
 paleontologist could offer to the geologist towards
 the comparison and identification of strata, and
 the determination of the epoch of their formation.
 Moreover, it is notorious that the doctrine of more
 than one point of origin for a single species, and
 consequently more than one primogenitor for the
 individuals of it, sprung out of apparent anomalies
 and difficulties in distribution, such as those which
 I am about to shew can be reasonably accounted
 for, without having recourse to such a supposi-
 tion."

There is a little *illogicality* here; if the doctrine
 be taken for granted, it should not be argued; if
 it require argument, it should be fully argued.
 Having vented this bit of hypercritical spleen,—
 arising, perhaps, from the fact that we are not
 quite so fully convinced of the doctrine of specific
 centres, at least as derived from inductive con-
 siderations, as the able author of the memoir before
 us,—we will only state that the argument would
 probably turn upon the question, What does simi-
 larity of conditions import? and how is exact simi-
 larity proved? and pass to the conclusions de-
 ducible from the elaborate paper of Prof. Forbes,
 and succinctly given by him at its close:

"1. The flora and fauna, terrestrial and marine,
 of the British islands and seas, have originated, so
 far as that area is concerned, since the miocene
 epoch. 2. The assemblages of animals and plants
 composing that fauna and flora did not appear in
 the area they now inhabit simultaneously, but at
 several distinct points in time. 3. Both the fauna

and flora of the British isles and seas are composed partly of species which, either permanently or for a time, appeared in that area before the glacial epoch, partly of such as inhabited it during that epoch, and in great part of those which did not appear there until afterwards, and whose appearance on the earth was coeval with the elevation of the bed of the glacial sea, and the consequent climatal changes. 4. The greater part of the terrestrial animals and flowering plants now inhabiting the British islands are members of specific centres beyond their area, and have migrated to it over continuous land before, during, or after the glacial epoch. 5. The climatal conditions of the area under discussion, and north, east, and west of it, were severer during the glacial epoch, when a great part of the space now occupied by the British isles was under water, than they are now or were before; but there is good reason to believe, that so far from those conditions having continued severe or having gradually diminished in severity southwards of Britain, the cold region of the glacial epoch came directly into contact with a region of more southern and thermal character than that in which the most southern beds of glacial drift are now to be met with. 6. This state of things did not materially differ from that now existing under corresponding latitudes in the North American, Atlantic, and Arctic seas, and on their bounding shores. 7. The Alpine floras of Europe and Asia, so far as they are identical with the flora of the Arctic and sub-Arctic zones of the Old World, are fragments of a flora which was diffused from the north, either by means of transport not now in action on the temperate coasts of Europe, or over continuous land which no longer exists. The deep-sea fauna is in like manner a fragment of the general glacial fauna. 8. The floras of the islands of the Atlantic region, between the Gulf-weed bank and the Old World, are fragments of the great Mediterranean flora, anciently diffused over a land constituted out of the up-heaved and never-again submerged bed of the (shallow) meiocene sea. This great flora, in the epoch anterior to, and probably in part during, the glacial period, had a greater extension northwards than it now presents. 9. The termination of the glacial epoch in Europe was marked by a recession of an Arctic fauna and flora northwards, and of a fauna and flora of the Mediterranean type southwards; and in the interspace thus produced there appeared on land the general Germanic fauna and flora, and in the sea that fauna termed Celtic. 10. The causes which thus preceded the appearance of a new assemblage of organised beings were the destruction of many species of animals, and probably also of plants, either forms of extremely local distribution, or such as were not capable of enduring many changes of conditions,—species, in short, with very limited capacity for horizontal or vertical diffusion. 11. All the changes before, during, and after the glacial epoch appear to have been gradual and not sudden, so that no marked line of demarcation can be drawn between the creatures inhabiting the same element and the same locality during two proximate periods. 12. The relationship now existing between the faunas and floras of Boreal America and Europe, both marine and freshwater, was established during (probably towards the close of) the glacial epoch. 13. No glacial beds are known in southern Europe; no 'newer pliocene' (in the sense of equivalents of the Sicilian tertiaries), in the centre and north. In the latter we find most of the existing British testacea, which after inhabiting our area before, disappeared from it during the glacial epoch; and with them we find certain glacial species of northern origin, now extinct in the seas of southern Europe. I infer the synchronism of the glacial and Sicilian deposits."

The next paper is by Mr. Hunt, "On the influence of magnetism and voltaic electricity on crystallisation and other conditions of matter." This paper is mainly an extension of one published

in the *Philosophical Magazine*, for Jan. 1846, in which the author, connecting the discovery of Faraday with the experiments of Muschman, Ritter, and Hanstein, shewed some remarkable regular figures produced in salts affected by magnetism whilst undergoing precipitation. In the present paper these researches are continued, and others following up the experiments of Mr. Were Fox are given. It will be remembered by many of our readers that in the year 1837, an experiment by Mr. Fox attracted much attention. Having placed moistened clay between a plate of zinc and another of copper metallically connected, and allowing this combination to remain undisturbed for some months, Mr. Fox found that the clay had become laminated, the direction of the laminae being at right angles to the line joining the metallic plates. This experiment did not succeed with some parties who repeated it shortly after Mr. Fox; but Mr. Hunt has since fully repeated it, and added several corroborative experiments of his own; the probability, therefore, of its being a true physical fact, and a representation of certain processes by which laminated rocks are formed, is much increased.

With regard to the first portion of this paper, some doubt is thrown upon the effects being due to magnetism, by the researches of M. Wartmann (see *Lit. Gaz.* No. 1552), who has obtained results of a similar character without the use of magnets or of electricity, and who has not found the predominant influence of the north pole in producing precipitation, or, indeed, of magnetism generally, as affecting the amount of chemical action. We can at present, therefore, pronounce no opinion upon the supposed influence of magnetism on chemical action, the results being contradictory, and somewhat undefined in their character: there is little doubt that these two forces, like all others, are connected; and perseverance on the part of those engaged in the researches will, in all probability, ultimately unveil the true modes of their mutual actions and relations.

Mr. Hunt's paper is followed by one of Dr. Playfair, "On the gases evolved during the formation of coal." We have already noticed (*Literary Gazette*, No. 1483) a report on the gases obtained in the smelting of iron, by Professor Bunsen and Dr. Playfair. The eudiometrical processes employed for the analysis of the gases from iron, detailed in that report, are also employed for those given in the present paper. The gases detected in the inflammable compound from the blowers of coal-mines were oxygen, olefiant gas, carbonic oxide, light carburetted hydrogen, carbonic acid, and nitrogen; but the three latter gases were the most usual: the results of several analyses are given in a tabular form. The following are the theoretical considerations deduced by Dr. Playfair as to the formation of the coal-measures:

"It is possible that the continued slow action of heat may effect the transformation of woody fibre or of a bituminous coal into anthracitic coal; but the gases evolved must, in such cases, be more complex. Whether or not nature employs the action of a slow heat in the preparation of anthracitic coal it is difficult to say; but we certainly can obtain a very perfect anthracite by such means. An anthracite quite similar to native anthracite in appearance was obtained by a very gradual and prolonged coking of the bituminous furnace coal of Alfreton, and is deposited in this museum. Doubtless, in this transformation by heat, various hydrocarbons are expelled. In the vicinity of Cupar, in Fifeshire, there is a basaltic dyke, which has passed through the coal-measures. When a fragment of this basalt is broken, the freshly-exposed surface is quite moist with naphtha, which quickly evaporates; it cannot be doubted that this naphtha must have been formed by the action of heat upon the coal. We may not yet be able to explain all the transformations of woody fibre into coal, but their nature is sufficiently indicated by the composition of the gases.

"It may not be out of place to consider the man-

ner in which the ancient vegetation now constituting our coal-beds became destroyed in such a way as not to be transformed into the usual gaseous constituents of decaying matter, especially as no definite ideas seem to be entertained on this subject. We know of instances, in modern times, of forests buried in peat-bogs, where the character of the trees proves that their destruction is comparatively recent. Sir Humphry Davy endeavoured to explain their entombment by supposing that the axe was used too indiscriminately, and that the felling of the exterior trees left the interior ones exposed, and too feeble to resist the weather. This is certainly not a sufficient explanation, as we observe no such catastrophe following similar errors in judgment at the present time.

"A curious case is pointed out by Mr. Binney, in Lancashire, where there is evidence of a bank having been thrown up by the sea at the margin of one of those forests antecedent to its destruction. The effect of a bank thrown up at the margin of a forest must be to stop the natural drainage of a country, and throw it into the state of a marsh or bog. The roots of trees require an abundant supply of oxygen, which is an essential constituent of the sap, and exists in larger proportion than in common air in the spiral vessels. The marshy state of the land formed a barrier to the ingress of air to the soil, and, consequently, to the roots. The leaves which fell, the broken branches which strewed the ground, were placed in favourable conditions to decay. They could not do so, however, by the mere action of the air, which was, to a great extent, precluded; and they therefore acted upon the peroxides of iron in the soil, and robbed it of its oxygen, as we know organic matter readily does. All the iron in the soil was now reduced to protoxide, and a complete barrier to the entrance of oxygen to the roots was effected; for as soon as any was absorbed by the soil it must have been appropriated by this lower oxide, which, on elevation to the peroxide, again yielded it to the dead organic matter. The trees were now in a condition in which they could not possibly subsist; for deprived of an essential condition to their sustenance, surrounded by a matter which is positively poisonous to vegetable life, it is easy to conceive that whole forests were destroyed. This is not an ideal order of events, even in the case of the vegetation constituting coal; for analysis shews the under-clay of the coals, the soil in which they are supposed to have grown, to be so charged with protoxide of iron as to prevent the possibility of a plant growing; and any stagnation to the water, sufficient to cause reduction, would produce the same effect to the coal vegetation as to that employed by way of illustration in the bogs and marshes of the present time. . . . If such a course of events happened, and its probability is strengthened by geological considerations, there is no difficulty in accounting for the destruction of the ancient vegetation; the absence of the air would cause the preservation of woody fibre, which could only undergo the putrefactive mouldering which gives rise to wood coal. Being entombed in this state under considerable pressure, and at a temperature higher, at all events, than the surrounding air, its further decomposition and the elimination of carburetted hydrogen, carbonic acid, and water, would proceed just as we find it in progress at the present day."

A notice follows, by Mr. Warington Smyth, "On the Ogofau Mine, Carmarthenshire." This appears, both by tradition and by internal evidence, to have been a mine opened and carried on by the Romans in search of gold; one small specimen of gold has been found in it, contained in quartz, and several gold ornaments have been discovered in the neighbourhood. A passage occurs in Tacitus, implying that the precious metals were found in Britain, "fert Britannia aurum et argentum et alia metalla pretium victorie;" and many antiquities have been discovered by Mr. Johns, a gentleman residing in the neighbourhood, indicating that there was originally a Roman station there.

A second notice by Mr. Smyth follows, "On the mining academies of Saxony and Hungary," drawn up from personal observation. The account is short, but drawn up in a masterly manner; the following is the comment by the author on the effects of the education at these establishments:

"In looking at the system pursued at the above institutions, we find at both of them a prominent defect tending to impair the usefulness of the class of men which they produce, viz. that the time is so short in which the scholars are expected to pay attention to such a multitude of subjects, that it is impossible they can acquire all of them soundly and practically; and although an excellent foundation may have been laid, it must be left entirely to after years to rear up the superstructure, when amid the pressure of business, and other cares and pursuits, there is only a small per-centage of men who feel an inclination to return to a system of study. The mode of partially obviating this evil would be, to separate more decidedly the departments of the mine and the smelting furnace; for although a portion of the earlier studies is necessary as a preparatory course for both, most of what follows cannot be obtained but at a great expenditure of time and labour; and in the ordinary routine it is as foreign to the business of the metallurgist to construct the timbering of a shaft, as to that of the miner to build a blast furnace. There are some cases, it is true, where works are to be conducted in an uncivilised country, when such an extended knowledge must be highly desirable; but for these a fuller course of preparation is clearly necessary. . . . The course of mining education fails, therefore, in one of its most important features, the inculcation of the general principles and the practical application of geology; and it need excite no surprise that serious blunders should often be committed, even in a country where such errors might be checked by the existence of an institution like the above, and as too frequently happens nearer home, that coal should be absurdly sought in non-carboniferous geological formations, where a few black shales attract the attention of the ignorant speculator."

Notices of the mining establishment of France, of the coal and lignite raised, the iron and steel manufactured in France, by Mr. Smyth; and of the copper and tin raised in Cornwall, by Mr. Hunt, conclude the book. These are mainly statistical, and do not admit of analysis; we therefore conclude our notice, rejoicing in the promise this volume gives us of valuable accessions to physical science as applied to a large portion of our industrial departments. The importance of this book demanded, indeed, an earlier notice than we have given it; but our pages have been fully occupied with scientific matter in the proceedings of the British Association, and most gratifying is it to have such a press of good scientific matter, and to see such an increasing number of energetic minds devoted both to the development of the elementary truths, and also of the practical applications of science. We hope the neglect of science and of its cultivators, for which our country has obtained an unenviable reputation, is fast passing away; and that the indomitable energy of the Saxon will effect a sound reform in this as it has in other branches of human progress, and not wait until a tardy concession is made to the exigencies of pressure from external nations.

THE NEW PLANET: LE VERRIER.

OUR sensitive neighbours are in arms to defend the discovery of Le Verrier and Galle. They make it (to quote *L'Epoque* for instance) *question grave de gloire nationale*. Conscious of their own appropriative practice, they magnify a claim to merit into an attempt to filch *la gloire* of Le Verrier, and to tarnish *la gloire nationale*! They say that already in England the names of Le Verrier and Galle are forgotten—eclipsed by Adams and Challis; and that the latter are alone remembered in conjunction with *la gloire* of science. Next, doubt-

less, they will assert, that already in England the new planet is called the Adams, and that under this name only is it acknowledged by the Royal and Astronomical Societies of London!

The right to priority of discovery is universally admitted to be publication; and unless M. Poinset and others identify the announcement of M. Wartmann in 1832, and of M. Cacciatores in 1836, with the planet of 1846, *la gloire* is pre-eminently due to Le Verrier and Galle. But even should identity be established, their names will ever be held in high honour, and Le Verrier take rank with La Place. Still we claim merit for the distinguished under-graduate of St. John's ("an unknown college of Cambridge"!), and equal merit with Le Verrier for intellectual attainments, though not for the attainment of *la gloire*.

So clearly is the right to "discovery" defined, and so generally is it admitted, that the discussion in the Academy relative to Adams and Challis, described by our Occasional Correspondent last week, surprised us not a little. We were not, however, surprised at the arrogance of Arago; and the warmth of our countryman at his patronage of Sir W. Herschel, even to "don't let them have the new planet," is excusable. Doubtless his letter will be gun-cotton to the fiery French, and "F. M." of *L'Epoque* will fume furiously; although there can be no chance of his misconstruing the spirit of its contents as he has our remarks, p. 890. But F. M. was in a rage, and his indignation dulled his understanding. He is very indignant, too, at Mr. Lassell publishing his observations of a ring and satellite to the new planet, without daring to assert they exist. Modesty is perverted into a trick to forestall *la gloire*; for F. M. himself says their discovery is not impossible! The words of the writer are to the following effect:—

F. M. the Epoch of Paris presents his compliments to Mr. Lassell. F. M. the Epoch is surprised at Mr. L.'s presuming to look at "Le Verrier," and indignant at his daring to record the probability of a ring and satellite. F. M. claims such right exclusively for his friend Le Verrier, or some other French *savant*.

But a truce to trifling. We exult in the progress of science, and within its pale, so extensive is it, we know no foreigner. The fame of each of its votaries redounds to *la gloire* of the fraternity. But to every one his due: *la gloire* to Le Verrier; and to Adams thanks and admiration.

Had the facilities of publication been equal to both, it is possible that the position of these eminent names might have been reversed. This we state with no other feeling than that of a conviction of the imperfect machinery of our Royal Society. We have, however, long ago announced that reform is being carried out, and we know that good heads and stout hearts are at work. Facility, regularity, and frequency of publication will be a great boon.

Since writing the foregoing, in which we have expressed our sentiments that publishing alone entitles to priority of discovery; or, we may add, recording in the archives or proceedings of a public scientific body (we scarcely think that even documentary communication to an Observatory is sufficient), we have received another letter on the subject from our Occasional Correspondent in Paris. He argues the subject with less warmth than last week, and we insert his statement as a succinct record of the facts, although we differ from his conclusions, other than that there is great merit due both to Mr. Adams and Prof. Challis. His opinions respectively of the Paris press (all in arms for *la gloire nationale*) we omit, retaining only his observations as to the *National*, which, if it contained the exact expressions applied to Herschel, Challis, and Adams, fully deserves any epithet.

[From our occasional Correspondent.]

Paris, Oct. 28, 1846.

THE last number of the *Comptes Rendus* of the

Academy of Sciences contains a full report of the speech delivered by M. Arago, at the last meeting of the Academy, in defence of M. Le Verrier's exclusive right to the discovery of the new planet. Contrary, however, to my expectation, I find in it nothing that was not stated in my last letter. M. Arago thinks nothing at all of the arguments tending to shew that the new planet is the same as was seen several years ago by Cacciatores and Wartmann; and the great man thinks still less of the demand made by the most eminent astronomers of England, that a share in the great discovery shall be awarded to Mr. Adams, on the ground that he had placed in their hands, before Le Verrier did so, calculations proving the probability of the existence of the planet. As to the great M. Arago's opinion of the discoveries of Cacciatores and Wartmann I have nothing to say; but I hope the *grand homme* will pardon me for venturing, with all humility, to dispute the conclusions he has arrived at with respect to Mr. Adams.

What are the facts? Sir J. Herschel, Mr. Airey, and Mr. Challis, do not dispute that a new planet has been discovered after the calculations made by M. Le Verrier; but they say that the idea that such a planet existed was current long before Le Verrier's calculations were heard of; they say, moreover, that similar calculations to his were made by a young Englishman, also before his were heard of; that the correctness of such calculations were tested; that the sky was examined after them, and that by means of them a heavenly body was seen on the 4th and 12th of August, which heavenly body in all probability was the planet. I believe I state the question very fairly as regards M. Le Verrier, and rather unfavourably as regards Mr. Adams. On this statement, however, no impartial person can, for one single moment, deny that Mr. Adams has a large share to the right—it would not, perhaps, be too much to say the whole right—of the great discovery. In support of the positions taken up by the English astronomers, we have the declaration of Sir John Herschel, that so far back as 1842 he declared to Bessel, the celebrated astronomer, that the movements of Uranus were in all probability caused by an unknown planet; that at the meeting of the British Association he stated that it was probable that in the course of the present year a new planet would be discovered; and that Mr. Adams had undertaken and completed calculations which indicated nearly the same point in the heavens as the position of the new planet as that stated by M. Le Verrier. Mr. Airey, the astronomer royal, declares positively that he was made acquainted with the calculations of Mr. Adams before he received those of M. Le Verrier. Mr. Challis, of Cambridge, declares still more positively that Mr. Adams had commenced his calculations before entering the University of Cambridge; and that in 1843 he suspended them to pursue his academical studies. He states, moreover, that in September, 1845, he received from Mr. Adams calculations which indicated pretty nearly the same position to the new planet as that stated by Le Verrier in June, 1846; that in consequence of this closeness between the two calculations he commenced, on 29th July, 1846, a series of observations; and that, aided by a document drawn up by Mr. Adams, he saw the planet on the 4th, and again on the 12th of August. All these points of the argument, be it remarked, are taken from the letters as translated and read by M. Arago himself (I have not had the opportunity of seeing the original). Well, what is M. Arago's answer? First of all he says that Mr. Adams's calculations were not published, and that therefore he has not the slightest right to figure in the discovery of the new planet. But is such an argument worth anything? If it be, then I, sir, am not the author of this letter in case you should not think fit to print it: no manuscript is of the slightest value until (the Irishism is M. Arago's) it becomes print. As to what Sir

John Herschel says of the verification of Le Verrier's calculations, the great M. Arago finds it *fort peu obligeante*; and as to what Sir John says about having imagined, so far back as 1842, that the new planet existed, M. Arago knows somebody who imagined the same thing so far back as 1821. Is this any answer to Sir John Herschel's letter? I think not. Next the great Arago falls foul of the astronomer royal. He insists that Mr. Airey attached no importance whatever to the communications of Mr. Adams, inasmuch as in June last he wrote to M. Le Verrier to criticise, or rather to ask a question respecting some of his positions. But how, in the name of heaven, can such a proceeding be said to disprove Mr. Airey's subsequent declaration that he knew of the calculations of Mr. Adams before receiving those of Le Verrier? It would be just as reasonable to say that the *Lit. Gaz.* had not received a work of Mr. A. because it had criticised one by Mr. Z. But, it is urged, the inference from Mr. Airey's letter of the 26th June is, that he did not believe in the existence of the new planet. I do not see that at all: and even if he be, it most certainly does not lessen in any way the fact of Mr. Adams having made the calculations before Le Verrier—at most it amounts to an error of judgment on the part of the astronomer royal, for which Mr. Adams is in nowise responsible, and for which consequently he cannot be made to suffer. Lastly, M. Arago answers what Mr. Challis says respecting the observations he took on the calculations of Mr. Adams by citing a letter from Mr. Challis, in which he says that "he confined himself strictly to the suggestions of M. Le Verrier, and confined himself to the limits he indicated." This letter is dated the 9th September, and is relied upon as a flagrant contradiction to the letter of the 15th October, in which he stated that he followed the directions of Mr. Adams, and saw the planet on the 4th and 12th August. It may be stupidity on my part, but I confess that it seems to me that Mr. Arago draws an immense conclusion from a very insignificant circumstance. It may be that Mr. Challis saw the new planet in September by following Le Verrier's directions; but that does not shew that he had not seen the same planet on the 4th and 12th of August by following the directions of Mr. Adams. It may be that he wrote in September to M. Arago, to say that he had conformed to Le Verrier's instructions; but that did not deprive him of the right of insisting upon Mr. Adams, and I will add, himself (for his share in the matter is very great), receiving the honour that is justly their due. It may be that in the letter of September he said nothing of Mr. Adams; but that does not prove that Mr. Adams is an impostor.

You have now before you all the facts of the case, *pro and con*, with such feeble observations as occur to me upon the positions taken up by M. Arago on behalf of M. Le Verrier, which positions, as formally stated by the great man, are:—"1. Mr. Adams has not the right to figure in the history of the discovery of the planet, Le Verrier [M. Arago means the planet to which Mr. Challis has given the name of *Oceanus*], either by any detailed citation, or even by the slightest allusion. 2. In the eyes of every impartial man, this discovery will remain one of the most magnificent triumphs of astronomical theory, one of the glories of the Academy, one of the finest titles of our country to the gratitude and admiration of posterity." What will be the decision of your readers upon this dispute between the French and the English savans, cannot be doubted: it will be that Mr. Adams and Mr. Challis, our countrymen, and through them our country, are entitled to a large portion, if not the whole, of the glory of having discovered the new planet. No other decision can possibly be arrived at, unless we be prepared to allow that Sir John Herschel, Mr. Airey, and Mr. Challis, three of our most distinguished countrymen, are, as the *National*, M. Arago's newspaper, politely asserts, audacious liars, impudent scientific swind-

lers, and the concocters of a conspiracy of unexampled baseness. I ask pardon of these gentlemen for putting, even for one moment, such epithets by the side of their honoured names. Nor is it only from the *National* that filthy abuse has been flung at them, and not at them only, but at the whole British nation. The *Presse*, *Constitutionnel*, *Courrier Français*, *Commerce*, *Reforme*, *Siccle*, *Epoque*, *Univers*,—each and all have wreaked their petty spite upon these gentlemen, and after them have calumniated and belied the character of all the English people.

Before concluding, allow me to say one word to your contemporary the *National*. In its number of this day, this journal says, in reference to this subject, "Nous aurons a nous defendre personnellement contre les impertinentes attaques du correspondant Parisien du *Literary Gazette*, qui a trouve commode de nous insulter, en patois Britannique, sous le voile prudent de l'anonyme;" and it promises to make the said defence in an article specially devoted to it and to other things. What I have to say to the *National* is this: that my "impertinent attacks," though made under what it impudently calls "le voile prudent de l'anonyme," shall be unhesitatingly inscribed with my name and address, in letters an inch long, if the *National* will prove that it has the right, or a shadow of a right, to demand such a departure from the usages of London journals. I am sufficiently intimate with the Parisian press to know that one of the *National's* ways of settling a dispute is to send half a dozen brawling fellows to any one who offends it, to bully him into running the risk of being shot through the head or stuck to the heart. Perhaps it is some such agreeable alternative that the *National* would like to provide for me. If it be, I can assure your republican contemporary that it will not deter me for one moment from repeating all that I said in answer to its infamous attacks on Sir John Herschel and the other gentlemen mixed up in this squabble about the new planet. The *National*, it is true, is wonderfully fierce, but not, I suspect, so formidable as it thinks itself. I, at all events, fear it not.

PATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

THIS society, which has sprung into existence during the current season, held its first general meeting last Tuesday evening. The chair was occupied on the occasion by the president of the society, Dr. C. J. B. Williams, who was supported by the vice-presidents and members of the council, among whom are included many of the leading members of the medical profession in the metropolis. The advantages, uses, and difficulties attending the study of pathological or morbid anatomy, were well detailed from the chair. The president also pointed out the necessity and demand for such a society as this in a large city like London; stating that Paris, Dublin, and some provincial towns, were hitherto in advance of the metropolis in this respect. Various pathological specimens were submitted to the notice of the meeting,—the attendance at which was very large, many gentlemen being present as visitors, though we understand the society numbers already more than 100 members. Ordinary meetings are to be held once a fortnight.

LITERARY AND LEARNED.

UNIVERSITY INTELLIGENCE.

Oxford, Oct. 22.—The following gentlemen were admitted *ad eundem*—The Rev. E. W. R. Pulling, M.A., Queen's College, Cambridge; the Rev. T. R. White, M.A., St. John's College, Cambridge; and the following degrees were conferred:—

Masters of Arts.—R. G. Michell, fellow of Queen's Coll.; Rev. W. G. Gibson, Worcester College; Rev. G. Jenkins, Lincoln College; J. M. W. Edwards, Brasenose College; J. Rigaud, demy of Magdalene.
Bachelors of Arts.—O. M. Hildley, Christ Church College, grand compounder; S. Griffith, Exeter College; J. E. T. Rogers, Magdalene Hall.

CAMBRIDGE, Oct. 21.—The following degrees were conferred:—

Masters of Arts.—G. S. Drew, R. Whytehead, St. John's College; R. E. Roy, Corpus Christi College.
Bachelors of Arts.—C. E. Douglass, Trinity College; F. J. Abbott, Corpus Christi College; S. Prince, Jesus College.

BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Oct. 28th. Public Meeting.—Mr. J. L. Williams exhibited some beautiful drawings of mediæval objects, illustrative of the arts and sciences; and read a paper in which some of the more remarkable of the exhibitions were described. The astronomical ring-dial of Sir Isaac Newton received a large share of attention, and excited a discussion in which Mr. W. Newton and Mr. Black took part. This dial which serves to find the hour of the day in any part of the world, consists of two rings or flat circles; the outward ring represents the meridian of any place, and is numbered from one to 360°. The inner represents the equator, and turns exactly within the outer, by means of two pivots, at the hour of 12. Within the two circles goes a thin reglet or bridge, with a cursor that moves in a slot. In this cursor is a little hole for the sun to shine through. The middle of this bridge is conceived as the axis of the world, and the extremities as the poles; and on the one side are drawn the signs of the zodiac, and on the other the days of the month. Mr. Williams described at length the way to use it; and concluded by observing that this kind of dial is not to be confounded with the simple ring-dial which Touchstone, in Shakspeare's "As you like it," takes from his pocket:

"With that he takes his dial from his poke,
And looking at it with lack-lustre eyes
Says, very wisely, it is ten o'clock."

Mr. Wright observed that it would be very desirable to bring together specimens of mediæval instruments used in the arts and sciences, for the purpose of illustration and comparison; and he incidentally mentioned that among the curious objects discovered by Mr. Rolfe in the Saxon cemetery near Sandwich (an account of which the Association was about to publish), was a pair of compasses.

Mr. J. Williams also exhibited drawings with a similar object. One was of an elaborately carved chest in the church of St. Thomas, Newport, Isle of Wight, of the early part of the sixteenth century.

Captain W. T. P. Shortt laid before the meeting an account of discoveries of Roman remains within the last few years, at Exeter. It appears that the great exertions made by Captain Shortt to rescue from destruction the numerous objects of past ages accidentally brought to light in Exeter, during the progress of excavations for public and private buildings, &c., have been attended with considerable success notwithstanding the entire absence of assistance from the local authorities.

A paper, entitled "A legendary, historical, and architectural account of the abbey-church of Glastonbury," by Mr. W. J. Duff Roper, was then read; after which, and relative thereto, Mr. Wright gave some amusing instances of the dexterity of the ecclesiastics of the middle ages in forging charters and titles to property. Mr. Smith also made a few remarks on the asserted discovery, by the monks of Glastonbury, of the cross of lead inscribed with the name of King Arthur, which he considered to have been fabricated by the monks, for purposes of fraud, about the time of Henry II.

Several minor communications were made by Messrs. Cuming, Keats, Bruce, and Isaacson; and Mr. Wright in the course of the evening referred to the discovery of early Cufic coins on the coast of Sussex, and stated that some thousands had been found on the shores of the Baltic.

It was then announced by the chairman that the next meeting (Nov. 11), and the future public ones, would be held, on account of better accommodation, at 32 Sackville-street; and that No. 7 of the *Journal* would be ready for associates in a few days.

LITERARY

Monday, 8 P.
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LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS FOR THE
ENSUING WEEK:—

Monday.—Entomological, 8 P.M.; Chemical, 8 P.M.;
Medical, 8 P.M.
Tuesday.—Linnæan, 8 P.M.; Horticultural, 2 P.M.
Wednesday.—Geological, 8 P.M.
Thursday.—Zoological, 8 P.M.
Friday.—Astronomical, 8 P.M.; Botanical, 8 P.M.
Saturday.—Asiatic, 2 P.M.; Westminster Medical, 8 P.M.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.*

GERMANY.

[From our Correspondent.]

A few days ago we had the pleasure of seeing the results produced by a new manner of taking impressions from metal plates, invented by C. Pül of Copenhagen. The prints we saw very much resembled woodcuts, but were fuller and warmer than these generally are. The name of the new method is Chemotypic, and the result obtained by this mode of engraving is, a drawing of the objects desired on a metal plate in relief, presenting the same appearance as the block of a woodcut, and available by means of a printing-press, although the same end is arrived at in a very different manner. In giving a description of the new invention, we shall suppose our readers to be acquainted with the appearance of a metal plate when ready for yielding impressions, as well as that of a woodcut when fit for working. Let our readers, then, suppose a metal plate, instead of being rubbed with printing-ink previous to the impression being taken off; let them suppose, we say, every graven line to be filled up with molten metal; and then the surface of the original plate eaten away all round the drawing, until its lines, which before were indented, stand forward like the surface of metal types. When it has now received the ink, and is passed under the press, one has, of course, a correct impression of every line left behind on the plate by the hand of the artist. The invention is founded on the positive and negative quality of different metals. If, for example, a plate of zinc is chosen, the engraving is made upon it in the usual way, and the lines are then filled up with a negative metallic composition. The zinc may then be eaten gradually away by means of certain acids, without the metal which has been run into the drawn lines being in the least affected. The inventor has hitherto generally made use of zinc for his experiments, as being a cheap metal, and particularly as possessing the advantage of being corroded by the generality of the known acids, and thus affording the engraver a large choice of materials. The means of introducing the molten metal to a required depth in the plate employed, is a secret known, as yet, to the inventor only. The proofs that have been published by the firm of Friedlein shew satisfactorily that Chemotypic is applicable not only to line but to other engraving; and that for maps it is particularly useful, as they by this means may be printed at the usual book-press.

Holtei's "Readings" from Shakspeare and other dramatists afford the literary world of Dresden much enjoyment at present. The talent he shews in discriminating the differences and shades of character in the less prominent personages, as well as the varied modulation of his voice, seem to be a theme of general admiration.

The celebrated painter, Julius Schnorr, has arrived at Dresden. An immense number of persons went in procession with torches to receive him, preceded by a large body of youths singing in chorus. His arrival causes the liveliest joy; and the most brilliant hopes are entertained for the future success of the academy. What adds to the general pleasure on this occasion is the kindly feeling and good will which prevail between the great master and the professor, and their scholars of the Dresden school.

In all parts of Germany experiments are being

made with the newly-invented explosive cotton. From Kiel, Oldenburg, Brunswick, Anhalt, and Frankfurt, accounts of its effects are made known. Professor Himly, of Kiel, is of opinion that it could not be well applied to the discharge of cannon, on account of the lower degree of temperature at which the cotton explodes than the powder hitherto used. It would, therefore, not be possible to discharge many shots consecutively, —an evil which is not seldom felt at present in quick and long-continued firing. Moreover, it is asserted that the material in question produces, in combustion, a considerable quantity of water; this, however, may arise from the imperfect nature of the cotton employed.

The old adage, "There is nothing new under the sun," seems, even in this instance, to suffer no diminution of its truth; for we read that a long time ago a preparation of cotton was used in Persia instead of tinder, which appears to have a great resemblance with the newly-invented substance. In 1808, a Persian ambassador travelled from Munich to Paris. When in Munich his pipe was filled by a servant, and, in order to ignite it, a bit of cotton was taken out of a small box, placed on the tobacco, and then ignited by a spark elicited by a flint and steel. The cotton detonized in the same manner as the new explosive cotton, and ignited the tobacco. The tinder thus used was of course chemically prepared, otherwise it could not possibly have been ignited by a spark; but the invention in Persia was never applied to higher purposes than that above related. A gentleman now in Stuttgart, but who, in 1808, was in Munich, was reminded of these circumstances, of which he himself was a witness, by the late discovery of Professor Schönbein.

Jenny Lind has completed her engagement at Frankfurt, where, as usual, she was most enthusiastically received. She is at present at Munich, and in a day or two will give her first performance. Thence she goes to Vienna, where, it is said, a medal is awaiting her, struck for the occasion by her numerous admirers in that capital.

At Munich, on the morning of the 12th of October, his majesty King Louis of Bavaria laid the first stone of the new Pinakothek. In this building no picture can be received painted earlier than the nineteenth century. Immediately before the placing the stone the king spoke the following words: "The Pinakothek is destined for pictures of this and of following centuries. The higher pictorial art had become extinct, when in the nineteenth century it rose again, like a phoenix from its ashes, through Germans. And not alone pictorial, but plastic art also, sprung up anew most gloriously. It is not as a luxury that art is to be considered; it must shew itself in everything; it must enter into our daily life, and it is then only that it becomes what it ought to be.* My great artists are my joy and my pride. The works of the statesman will long have perished when those of the distinguished artist still elevate themselves rejoicingly."

There were present at the ceremony the architect of the building about to be erected, Professor A. Voit, the professor of the academy of the plastic art, Von Gärtner, and the painters who are ordinary members of the new institution, besides many others. In the foundation stone, which was hollowed out for the purpose, were deposited, a plan of the building engraved on stone, a record of the same on porcelain, a portrait of his majesty on porcelain, and the silver coinage of the kingdom, in number 36 pieces.

On the following day Professor Von Gärtner left Munich for Aschoffenburg to superintend the progress of the Pompeian villa which the king is now erecting there on the banks of the Maine.

* "Als Luxus darf die Kunst nicht betrachtet werden; in allem drücke sie sich aus, sie gehe über ins Leben, nur dann ist was seyda soll." These words are quite in the spirit of those remarks on art which appeared in a late number of the *Literary Gazette*, p. 795.

THE DRAMA.

Drury Lane.—On Thursday evening, the *Maid of Cashmere* gave two new singers and two new dancers to the stage. Miss Messent, a pupil of the Royal Academy of Music, sang the music of *Leila* very sweetly; and Mr. Rafter, hitherto only occasionally heard as a substitute for others, who also acquitted himself with simplicity and taste. The dancers are named Dubignon and Benart, who shewed much activity combined with skilful ease, and were much applauded, as was the performance throughout.

Haymarket.—On Thursday a new and, strange to tell, an original comedy—and what is more a sterling English comedy—was produced at this theatre with most decided and observed success. It is written by Mr. Lovel, the author of the *Provost of Bruges* and other productions of great merit; and adds another leaf to his well-earned popular crown. The strength of the company was embodied in the characters which were distinctly drawn and ably developed. At this late hour we cannot say more than that, with the obvious curtailment of a few scenes which must have suggested themselves to the author and the manager, *Look before you leap* will do honour to our modern drama, redeem it from much of its disgrace, and establish itself as a public favourite, not for a season, but for years. We hail it as an auspicious omen.

The Princess's re-opened on Saturday, with an operatic company and a new opera, *Night Dancers*, the libretto by Mr. George Soane, and the music by Mr. Loder. Previous, however, to saying a few words on these novelties, we desire to do honour to the great presence of mind and gallantry displayed by Mr. Allen, on the occasion of a very alarming accident which happened to M^{me}. Albertazzi, from her dress catching fire and her rushing across the stage in flames. In a moment Mr. Allen threw his arms over her person and tore off the burning material, crushing it with his hands so as to extinguish the fire. The under garb, being of silk, happily did not catch the flame; if it had been of a slight inflammable substance, even the intrepidity of Mr. Allen might have been unavailing to save this fair being from a horrible death. Both behaved with extraordinary equanimity, and proceeded with their parts amid shouts of applause.—This fearful incident would have carried a bad opera; as it was, it could hardly add to the success of a good one, with more originality and beauty than we have recognised in no small number of more pretentious compositions. The author of *Nourjahad* has again asserted his place among the foremost of our native composers; the incidents of the plot (judiciously changed from *Giselle* by Mr. Soane), afford him opportunities for displaying a variety of genius; and in our opinion he has availed himself of them in a very popular manner. We will enter upon more particulars in a future *Gazette*. A new comic drama was also brought out, of which the less that is said the better, and especially of the indecorous acting of Mr. Compton.

Olympic.—*Vanburgh's Relapse* has been acted here; and a new five act comedy, by Mr. P. Palmer, is announced.

Mr. Lover in America.—We rejoice to see that our anticipations of Mr. Lover's success in America have been more than realised; for the accounts in all the journals we have received from New York describe a perfect triumph, and not merely a popular reception. We have the *Gazette* and *Times*, the *Courier* and *Enquirer*, the *Herald* and the *Mirror*, and all in one tone. Lover made his debut at the Stuyvesant Institution; and so crowded was the place by the first fashion of New York, that even the early visitants of the press could with difficulty obtain standing-room in the back settlements. It is impossible to tell, amid the panegyrics lavished on the entertainment, whether the pathetic and lyrical, or the comic and characteristic portions, afforded the greatest delight. One writer paints the effects very intelligibly though whimsi-

* Our regular Paris Correspondent's letter has not come to hand this week.

cally, by stating that the audience laughed till they cried, and then cried till they laughed again. They were not prepared for the wealth of original genius that was for the first time to be brought before them, nor for the talent which could impress truth, feeling, and humour on every variety of feature. The criticisms from the old country, however favourable, were weak when compared with the actual thing. The gratification was commensurate; and hundreds who could not gain admission went away to fill up many bumper houses in New York, and give the legible passport to a deservedly triumphal progress throughout the United States.

MUSIC.

The Music-Book. No. I. "Sing, Maiden, sing." Words by Barry Cornwall; Music by Balfe. No. II. "The False Friend." Words by the late Thomas Hood; Music by W. V. Wallace. No. III. "A Song for the Seasons." Words by Barry Cornwall; Music by J. H. Tully. No. IV. "My Home must be where'er thou art." Words by Mark Lemon; Music by Mrs. G. A. A. Beckett. The first four numbers of a series of songs published weekly, and which, with some noticeable plagiarisms, are still as original as the generality of ballads of the present day. The accompaniment to No. III. is excellent; and No. IV. is especially sweet and simple. Altogether, we can safely recommend them to our young lady-friends for home-singing.

VARIETIES.

The New Planet. Arago loquitor.

Let Herschel all he knows relate,
Or Chaillet state the case,
It was not Adams who foretold
The planet or its place.

To France this glory of the spheres
Belongs, dispute who can;
And, verily, Leverrier's
The veritable man!

J. L. S.

The Pictorial Almanac, emanating from the *Pictorial Times*, is full of pictures in every page, so that those may run who cannot read. There is, however, no want of more than the customary almanacical information, astronomical, commercial, agricultural, horticultural, medical, meteorological, political, economical, sporting, and useful.

The National Gallery was re-opened on Monday after the autumnal vacation, and with some valuable additions, upon which we shall offer a few remarks hereafter. A splendid and well-known "Bear-Hunt," by Velasquez, is the grand accession; but a fine Annabale Caracci, "The Temptation of St. Anthony," has also been purchased for the collection. There are besides fourteen pictures of an inferior order which have been bequeathed by a Mr. Simmons, viz.:—1. Schalken—Leahia weighing Jewels against her Sparrow. 2. Sassoferrato—The Madonna. 3. Joseph Vernet—A Seaport. 4. Hondikoeter—Domestic Poultry. 5. Gerard Van Harp—Conventual Charity. 6. Backhuysen—A Brisk Gale. 7. Deitrici—Itinerant Musicians. 8. Greuze—Head of a Girl. 9. Nicholas Maes—The Idle Servant. 10. Breenberg—Landscape, with Figures. 11. Botha—A Landscape, figures by Pooleberg. 12. Canaletti—The Piazza of St. Mark, Venice. 13. Jan Van Huysenberg—A Battle piece. 14. Theodore de Keyser—A Merchant and his Clerk.

The Distressed Needlewomen's Society held its third annual meeting on Tuesday, when it appeared that with very limited funds (little more than 500*l.* of subscriptions) the society had relieved many distressed, and carried comfort into many desolate abodes.

The Meeting at the Manchester Athenæum last week was a brilliant one. Lord Morpeth, whose address is fully and ably reported in the local papers, delivered an eloquent and judicious appeal to the multitude assembled; and was followed by Archbishop Whately, chiefly on general education, Mr. Dawson, one of the lecturers at the institution, Lord Ebrington, Mr. W. Cham-

bers, Mr. M. Philips, Mr. W. Brown, M.P., and a ball.

The prevalence of extraordinary Wet is a remarkable meteorological phenomenon of the present autumn. From Egypt and France we alike hear of great inundations; and the Atlantic storms bear witness to yet more extensive and violent atmospheric disturbances on the face of the earth.

Gun-Cotton.—The Frankfort Diet, in one of its last sittings, voted a recompense of 100,000 florins to Dr. Schönbein and Dr. Böttiger, the inventors of the cotton-powder, provided the federal military commissioners and the authorities of Mayence, after seeing it tried, should pronounce it to be a substitute for ordinary gunpowder, and to possess advantages that the latter had not.

The Danish Poet, Andersen.—A correspondent, obligingly referring to our expressed wish that the author of the *Bazaar* (see *Lit. Gat.* Nos. 1551 and 2) would fulfil his intention of coming to see us in London, intimates that this hope is not, at least immediately, likely to be realised. The author had returned to Copenhagen on the 13th, having suffered so much from the heat of Naples that he could not continue his travels, as he intended, through Spain, Portugal, and England, but was taken dangerously ill, and ordered to return to his native air as speedily as he could bear the fatigue of the journey. We regret this much; but trust it is only a postponement of the English visit. Herr Andersen is now a knight of three orders; viz. the red eagle of Prussia, the royal order of Wirtemberg, and the Danish order of Dannebrog. So are poets and *litterati* honoured on the continent.

Mr. Joseph Hume, the chemist.—The death of this eminent practical chemist, at the advanced age of 91, is announced in the obituary of the week. He died at Thornbury on the 18th, and was better known to the preceding than to the present generation, for his many useful discoveries and European philosophical correspondence.—We see also announced the death, on the 12th inst., in Pulteny Street, Bath, of Edward Strutt Esq., late fellow of Jesus College, Cambridge, and author of the "Journal of a Residence and Tour in the United States," &c., in the 56th year of his age.

"Cowper's Fo'-Signal."—Detonating power, made up in a circular form, three inches in diameter, firmly secured by tin plates, weighted with lead, to be placed on the rail, and exploded by the fore wheel of the engine. The report, as loud as that of a small cannon, is the signal to apply the breaks and stop the train.

New Pavement.—A paviour has proposed a pavement on a new principle, viz. alternate horizontal courses or layers of narrow wood and granite.

Africa.—The *Semaphore de Marseilles* announces the arrival in that city of M. Richardson, from Philippeville, after a journey through the centre of the Sahara during the present year. He travelled alone and without a firman or letter of introduction from any consul or government. His knowledge of the Arab language was of essential service to him, and frequently saved him from being put to death. M. Richardson's object was to collect accurate and statistical information relative to the slave-trade, and he fully succeeded. It was particularly from a country called Zonach-el-Zhat that he derived most important information.

America is going a-head.—The *New-York Sun* of the 8th is full of glorification. New Mexico, California, and other regions, are being rapidly added to the Union; and the thirteen stripes and stars will soon cut a very sorry figure. Witness the following paragraph:—"Material for New States: California will make forty-five states, each the size of New Jersey; and New Mexico is equal to twenty-five New Jerseys." Seventy new New Jerseys, added to Texas, &c. &c. &c. Why the whole New World will not be sufficient for this ambitious grasping of territory; and the Americans must soon be looking for location and colonies in the

Old. From the same paper we have a new world, viz. the third "blouth" of a fruit-tree this season. *Earthquake in Trinidad.*—A shock was felt on the 6th Sept.; and on the 13th one yet more severe threw down part of Trinity Church.

Artists wanted.—A curious feature has crept into the advertisements of the present time: it is for artists who are wanted. *Ex. gr.*:—"Mr. B—, the eminent artist, lately residing near Fitzroy Square," is solicited to send his address immediately to so-and-so; and "Mr. T—, artist, lately residing in Howland Street," is told that he will assist the ends of justice by "forwarding his present residence" to the advertiser. Should he be in a Union Workhouse, this would be no easy job; but at any rate this class of advertisements is likely enough to supersede that of purses and pocket-books accidentally left on particular shop-counters.

Such Family announcements as the following sound oddly: "At —, the lady of Captain —, was tached, of a son!"

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Parables of our Lord, richly illuminated borders, mor. 1*l.* 10*s.*; carved binding, 1*l.* 1*s.*—Heath's Book of Beauty for 1847, edited by Lady Blessington, roy. 8*vo.*, silk, 1*l.* 1*s.*; India proof, 2*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*—Hick's Key-Note for 1847, edited by Lady Blessington, roy. 8*vo.*, silk, 1*l.* 1*s.*; India proof, mor. 2*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*—Wilkinson's Catechism of Church-History, fcp. 6*s.*—Hiley's Key to Exercises in English Grammar, 12*mo.* 3*s.*—Etheridge's Syrian Churches, 12*mo.* 7*s.* 6*d.*—McNeill's Tables for Calculating Earth-Work, 2*d.* edit. 8*vo.*, 1*l.* 11*s.* 6*d.*—Cantwell's Housekeeper's Account-Book for 1847, 4*to.*, sewed, 2*s.*—The Emigrants' Guide, by Sir F. Head, post 8*vo.*, 12*s.*—Punch's Pocket-Book for 1847, 2*s.* 6*d.*—Gunter's New Manual of Homoeopathic Veterinary Medicine, 8*vo.*, 10*s.* 6*d.*—Pictures of Country-Life, by Thos. Miller, illustrated by Williams, 8*vo.*, 10*s.* 6*d.*; mor. 17*s.*—Boy's Treasury of Sports and Pastimes, plates, 12*mo.* 6*s.*—Hours of Meditation, by H. Zschokke, 2*d.* edit. fcp. 5*s.*—The Country-House, and other Poems, by J. Prior, fcp. 6*s.*—Finden's Beauties of Moore, 2*d.* Series, imp. 4*to.*, mor. 2*l.* 2*s.*; colombar 4*to.*, 3*l.* 3*s.*—Stray Leaves from a Freemason's Note-Book, by a Suffolk Rector, post 8*vo.*, 7*s.* 6*d.*—Bell's (Rev. H.) Lectures on the Parables, fcp. 6*s.*—Prynne's Sermons preached at Clifton, 8*vo.*, 10*s.* 6*d.*—Howitt's Seasons, 7*th.* edit. 12*mo.*, 6*s.*—Dr Silver on the Rectum, 7*th.* edit. 8*vo.*, 5*s.*—Bridgen's (J.) Practical Treatise on the Veterinary Art, 8*vo.*, 6*s.*—First Principles of Symmetrical Beauty, by D. R. Hay, 8*vo.*, 6*s.*—Florentine History, by H. E. Napier, Vol. I., post 8*vo.*, 12*s.*—Pulling (Alex.) on the Laws of Mercantile Accounts, 12*mo.*, 6*s.*—Robinson on the Teeth, 2*d.* edit. post 8*vo.*, 10*s.*—Vogel's (Julius) Pathological Anatomy of the Human Body, translated and edited by Dr. Davy, with plates, 8*vo.*, 18*s.*—Neale's Christian Heroism; or, Triumphs of the Cross, 18*mo.*, 2*d.* edit. 2*s.*—Esther and her People, by the Rev. John Hughes, 18*mo.*, 2*s.* 6*d.*—Coghlan's Picture of London and its Environs, 32*mo.*, new edit. 3*s.*—Loudon's (Agnes) Tales for Young People, edited by Mrs. Loudon, square 5*s.*—Daniel Dennison and the Cumberland Statesman, by the late Mr. Hoffman, 3*vo.*, post 8*vo.*—Naturalist's Library, Vol. XIV. Peacock, 4*s.* 6*d.*—Stories of the Crusades, fcp. 3*s.* 6*d.*—Tales of Female Heroism, fcp. 3*s.*—Florentine Hamilton, by Mrs. D. Burdett, 3*vo.*, post 8*vo.*, 1*l.* 1*s.* 6*d.*—Tales from Denmark, by Hans Ch. Andersen, sq. 8*vo.*, 7*s.* 6*d.*; coloured, 10*s.* 6*d.*—Sermons, by the Bishop of Oxford, 12*mo.*, 7*s.*—Bohn's Library, Vol. XII. The Works of Schiller, Historical and Dramatic, 3*s.* 6*d.*

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.

[This table shews the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1846.	h. m. s.	1846.	h. m. s.
Oct. 31 . . .	11 43 46.5	Nov. 4 . . .	11 43 46.5
Nov. 1 . . .	43 44.6	5 . . .	43 45.9
2 . . .	43 44.4	6 . . .	43 47.1
3 . . .	43 43.1		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A learned correspondent suggests (and sustains himself by curious antiquarian and astronomical argument) that the name of the new planet ought to be Eikon or Hypsisus?

We shall look among our books for the work to which the foreign author, N. L., calls our attention.

We know of no rule for "J. D.'s" query. Our practice is, to address —, Jun., Esq., and not Esq. Jun. Many of our correspondents continue to tax us very hardly by sending their communications very late in the week. A sheet like this, prepared from many and distant sources every No., can hardly meet a pressure nearly on the eve of going to press.

"J. P. D." came late, seems to possess merit, and shall receive consideration, hoping to lead to encouragement.

ERRATUM.—In our last week's list of new publications the Rev. J. Stern was printed instead of the Rev. J. Steen.

8 New Burlington Street, Oct. 31, 1846.

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Gold Medal of the highest Order of Merit,
Presented through the Minister of Public Instruction, at St. Petersburg, to EDWARD J. DENT, by command of his Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Russia, as a testimony to the unequalled performance of his recently invented Patent Chronometers, during the Grand Russian Chronometrical Expedition of 1843.

The following is an Extract from a Letter of M. STRUVE, Member of the Academy, and First Astronomer of the Central Observatory, St. Petersburg, to G. B. AIAY, Esq., Astronomer Royal.—

"With respect to the quality of the Chronometers, a very considerable difference between them has been most distinctly marked; and I hasten to inform you, that among the great number of Chronometers [81] of so many distinguished Artists, THE DENTS HAVE HELD THE FIRST RANK IN A BRILLIANT MANNER. I have to request you will announce this to Mr. DENT; present to him my congratulations on this result, and tell him that I shall shortly write to him to thank him most sincerely for the great assistance which he has afforded towards the success of the expedition, by sending us his admirable Chronometers."

It is necessary to state that, in the original letter, the words in small capitals were underlined with a double line, and that in Italics with a single one.

Extract from the 4th work of M. STRUVE, entitled, "Exposition Chronométrique, exécutée par l'ordre de Sa Majesté L'Empereur Nicolas Ier."

"M. E. DENT, de Londres, nous a fourni les Chronomètres qui, sans contestation, ont contribué le plus efficacement à l'exactitude du résultat de notre expédition."

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E. J. DENT has now the further satisfaction of announcing that, as an additional reward for the performance of his Patent Chronometers in 1844, H. I. M. the Emperor has been graciously pleased to confer upon E. J. DENT the appointment and title of "Chronometer Maker to H. I. M. the Emperor of Russia."

(A COPY). "ASHBURNHAM HOUSE,
16th January, 1845.

"Sir,
"By an official letter dated 25th of December, 1844, Monsieur the Minister of Public Instruction has just informed me, that His Majesty the Emperor, as a recompense for the useful service you rendered the Chronometrical Expedition confided to M. de Struve, has designed to grant you the title of 'Chronometer Maker to H. I. M. the Emperor of Russia.'

"It is with real pleasure that I hasten to inform you of this, and take this occasion to offer you the assurance of my entire regard.

"To Mr. DENT.

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The Committee of this Institution respectfully direct the attention of the charitable and humane to the following facts. During the last year assistance has, under the blessing of Divine Providence, been afforded to five hundred and forty patients; these, added to the amount of former years, make a total, admitted since the establishment of the Charity, of three thousand seven hundred and seventy-six. At the present period above one hundred Patients are on the books of the Charity, nearly six of whom are waiting to be received into the house, their cases requiring constant attention, and the aid of operative surgery. Under these distressing circumstances, AN APPEAL is urgently made to a benevolent Public for assistance to enlarge the Infirmary, so as to afford that relief which is so pressingly required.

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"I give and bequeath, out of such part of my personal Estate as may lawfully be applied for that purpose, the sum of £ . . . to the 'INFIRMARY FOR THE RELIEF OF THE POOR AFFLICTED WITH FISTULA AND OTHER DISEASES OF THE RECTUM,' established in London, which sum shall be for the use and benefit of the said Infirmary; and the receipt of the person who shall be Treasurer thereof at the time when the above Legacy is paid, shall be a good discharge to my Executors for the same."

Subscriptions continue to be received by the Treasurer: at the Banking House of Masterman, Mildred, and Co., 35 Nicholas Lane; or by 25 Austin Friars, Aug. 29, 1845. S. B. MERRIMAN, Hon. Sec.

TO VISITORS to the CONTINENT.—

Messrs. J. and R. MCRAKCKEN, Foreign Agents, and Agents to the Royal Academy, No. 7 Old Jewry, beg to remind the Nobility and Gentry that they continue to receive Consignments of Objects of Fine Arts, Baggage, &c. from all parts of the Continent, for clearing through the Custom-House, &c.; and that they undertake the Shipment of Effects to all parts of the world.

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The Committee feel it their duty to draw the attention of the public who take an interest in the treatment of the Poor to the following evidence:

Andover Union.

Select Committee of the House of Commons.

Sir Frankland Lewis's (Ex-Commissioner of the Poor-Law) opinion of Mr. Edward Chadwick, Secretary of the Poor-Law Commissioners:

"I thought Mr. Chadwick the most unscrupulous, the most dangerous, and as little trustworthy as any officer I ever saw within the walls of any office."—Vide "The Times," August 12, 1846.

Mr. Edwin Chadwick's counter-statement:

"I have been commonly assailed for documents for which I was not individually responsible. Sir James Graham, Secretary of State for the Home Department, passed animadversions on me on account of a letter written by Mr. G. Lewis, a Poor-Law Commissioner (son of Sir F. Lewis). I complained to Mr. Lewis, but could get no redress."—Vide "The Times," July 31, 1846.

"I believe (says Mr. Chadwick) Mr. Mott, Mr. Clements, and Mr. Tufnell, Assistant Poor-Law Commissioners, have been deterred from representing abuses and violations of the law, because those already exposed had displeased the Poor-Law Commissioners."—Vide "The Times," July 27, 1846.

Opinions of the Select Committee of the House of Commons, page 5:

"The Committee are of opinion that the conduct of the Poor-Law Commissioners has been irregular and arbitrary, and in accordance with the statute under which they exercise their functions, and such as to shake public confidence in their administration of the law."

Page 10.—"That the bad administration of the Andover Union, and the rigour with which the Board of Guardians, generally acting in accordance with the frequently published views of the Poor-Law Commissioners, have carried out the law, have often been the means of inducing labourers, to accept reduced wages in order to avoid the workhouse."—Vide "The Times," August 21, 1846.

General opinion of the Metropolitan Press:

"The New Poor-Law Commission seems to totter to its downfall, and the New Poor-Law itself cannot, we may venture to hope, much longer disgrace the statute-book."

The Committee venture to entertain the confident opinion, from the foregoing evidence, that the maltreated poor, who stand in need of a "Poor Man's Guardian Society."

To the Labouring Population of the Metropolis.

All you who entertain a sympathy for your companions in sickness or distress, are earnestly invited to enrol yourselves without delay, as Members of "The Poor Man's Guardian Society."

To the Inhabitants of the Cities of London and Westminster, and the Metropolitan Boroughs.

It being the intention to form District Committees of "The Poor Man's Guardian Society," all such persons whose benevolence incites them to active exertions in behalf of the poor, and are willing to take part in the formation of District Committees, are earnestly requested to forward their names to the Secretary, who will furnish them with the necessary authority and rules to proceed accordingly.

To the Residents of all Towns, Cities, and Boroughs throughout Great Britain and Ireland:

It being the anxious wish of the Committee to extend their operations throughout the United Kingdom, and to awaken a sympathy on behalf of the poor in every corner of the empire, they sincerely hope that every true friend to the poor will enlist himself in forming Auxiliary Committees in their respective counties, which, by an early communication with the Secretary, they will receive every authority and aid in accomplishing.

The Committee have much satisfaction in stating that, in the two cases of murderous assault committed on female paupers in Marlborough House Union, Peckham, they were inquired into, and the assailants prosecuted by "The Poor Man's Guardian Society," and, notwithstanding the protection and encouragement afforded to the assailants by the Guardians of the City of London Union, and the Poor-Law Commissioners, in the one case, one of the parties has been condemned to two months' imprisonment, and in the other, the assailants, officers employed by the City Guardians, are bound over by heavy sureties until the case, which is traversed, comes on for trial in the ensuing October Sessions.

As the daily operations of the Society subject the Committee to heavy disbursements, they confidently trust that a generous public will not be reluctant to aid them with their liberal Contributions, which may be paid in at Sir Claude Scott and Co.'s; Messrs. Smith, Payne, and Smith's; Jones, Lloyd, and Co.'s; Denison and Co.'s; or to the Secretary, 40 Leicester Square.

By order,
CHARLES COCHRANE, Chairman.
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